Central VOICE

JANUARY • FEBRUARY 2007

Region's GLBT Business Community Forms Chamber of Commerce

Russ Boggs and Judy Chambers, co-chairs of the Business Association of Gays and Lesbians (BAGAL), recently announced formation of the Central Pennsylvania Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (CPGLCC).

"This is an idea whose time has come," says Boggs. "BAGAL served an important function for the glbt community when it was formed, but the glbt business community has matured and needs something more."

"A chamber structure will be better able to address issues related to doing business in the region for gay-owned and gay-friendly businesses," comments Chambers, herself a small business owner. "We will still provide the personal networking that is so important for our businesses but will now be able to offer so much more."

Specific membership services remain un-

continued on page 4

Federal Tax Credit SolarTech of PA Keeps Green Low Cost

"By working closely with our superior solar product suppliers and manufacturers and bonded and insured contractors, we provide customers with money saving solutions to rising energy costs," says Jerry Wolfe, Systems Engineer, SolarTech of PA. Inc.

SolarTech of PA. was formed about one year ago to trouble shoot and repair existing systems and to install new systems that provide hot water or solar electric power.

"We work with both residential and commercial sectors," Wolfe says. SolarTech offers a range of options ranging from simple domestic hot water systems to installations that integrate solar heating with ground source heat pumps.

Wolfe says "typical customers are homeowners, landlords, water intensive busi-

continued on page 8

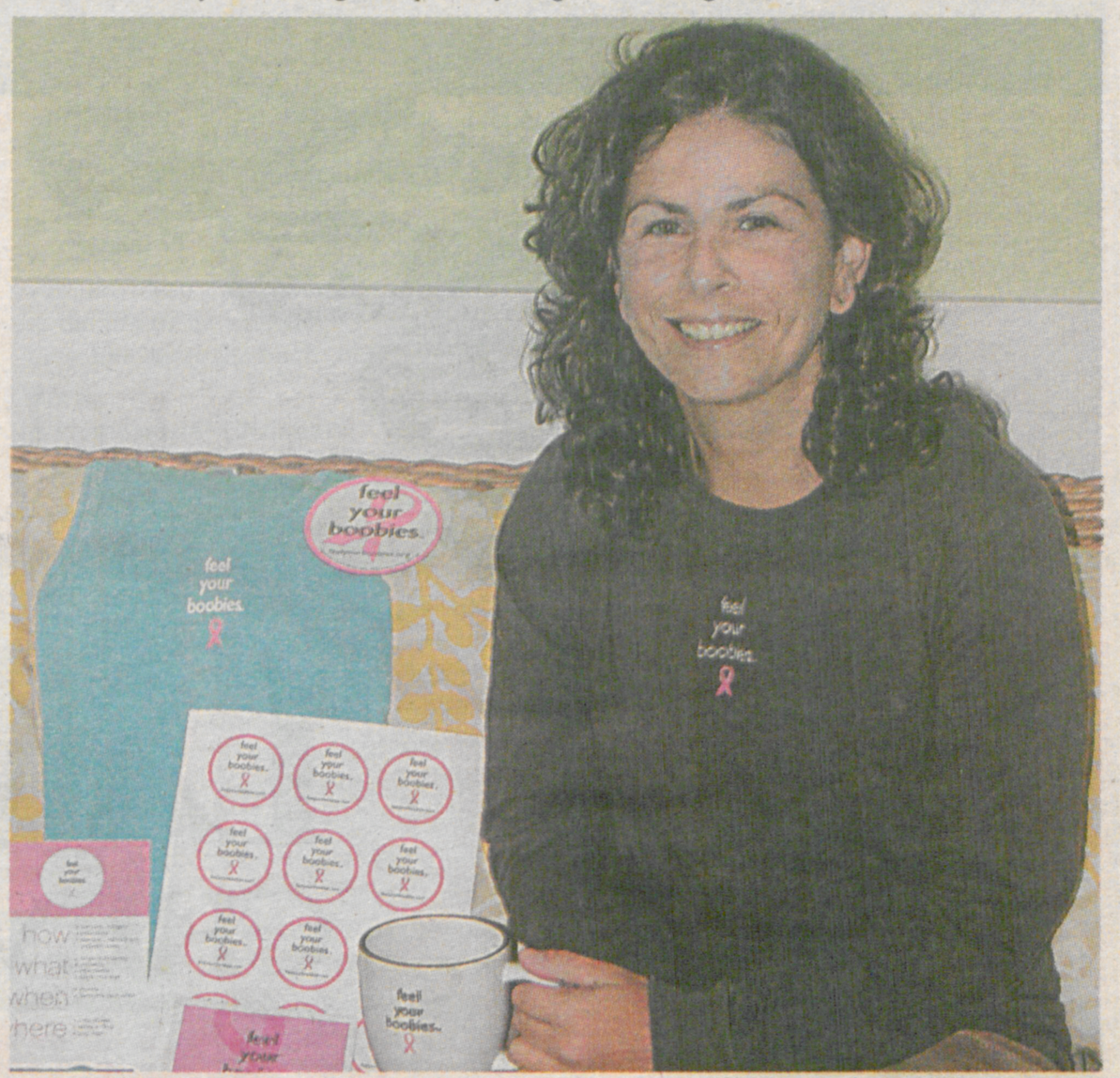
Region's Democrats Huddle – Fresh from defeating former **US Senator Rick Santorum**, from left, **Ben Turner**, co-chair, Capital Region Stonewall Democrats; **State Rep. Ron Buxton**; and **Dan Miller**, Harrisburg's first out gay city council member. Miller late last year organized local glbt leaders to plead their case to US Congressman Tom Holden (not shown here) regarding the federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act. Consequently, Holden agreed to cosponsor the "gay protective" bill in the new congressional session.

Feel Your Boobies

By Lindsay Davis

What started out as a fun reminder to her friends and family has grown into a booming business for Leigh Hurst, founder of Feel Your Boobies.

Hurst, a Middletown native, began making T-shirts sporting the phrase "feel your boobies" for her loved ones shortly after having a lumpectomy at age 33. The slogan is a reference to and reminder for



Leigh Hurst poses with product samples she sells through Feel Your Boobies. Hurst started the business as a way to encourage women under 40 to do regular self breast exams after she was diagnosed with breast cancer at age 33.

women to give themselves regular breast self-examinations to detect early signs of breast cancer.

Two years after she started giving her reminders, Hurst has business that has expanded far beyond T-shirts.

"I couldn't imagine not having this as a big part of my life," Hurst said. "I want it to continue to grow and replace my full-time income."

Hurst quit her full-time job last March to more aggressively pursue her FYB campaign. She was director of teaching and learning for a San Francisco-based e-Learning company. An increased volume of requests for FYB products was the major reason for her job change.

"It got to the point where I couldn't manage it myself while still working full-time. It was a steady stream of work that was valid, but time-consuming," Hurst said.

"When I made the decision [to quit my full-time job], a lot of bigger things fell out of that."

Last April, Hurst started making deliberate moves to help

continued on page 31

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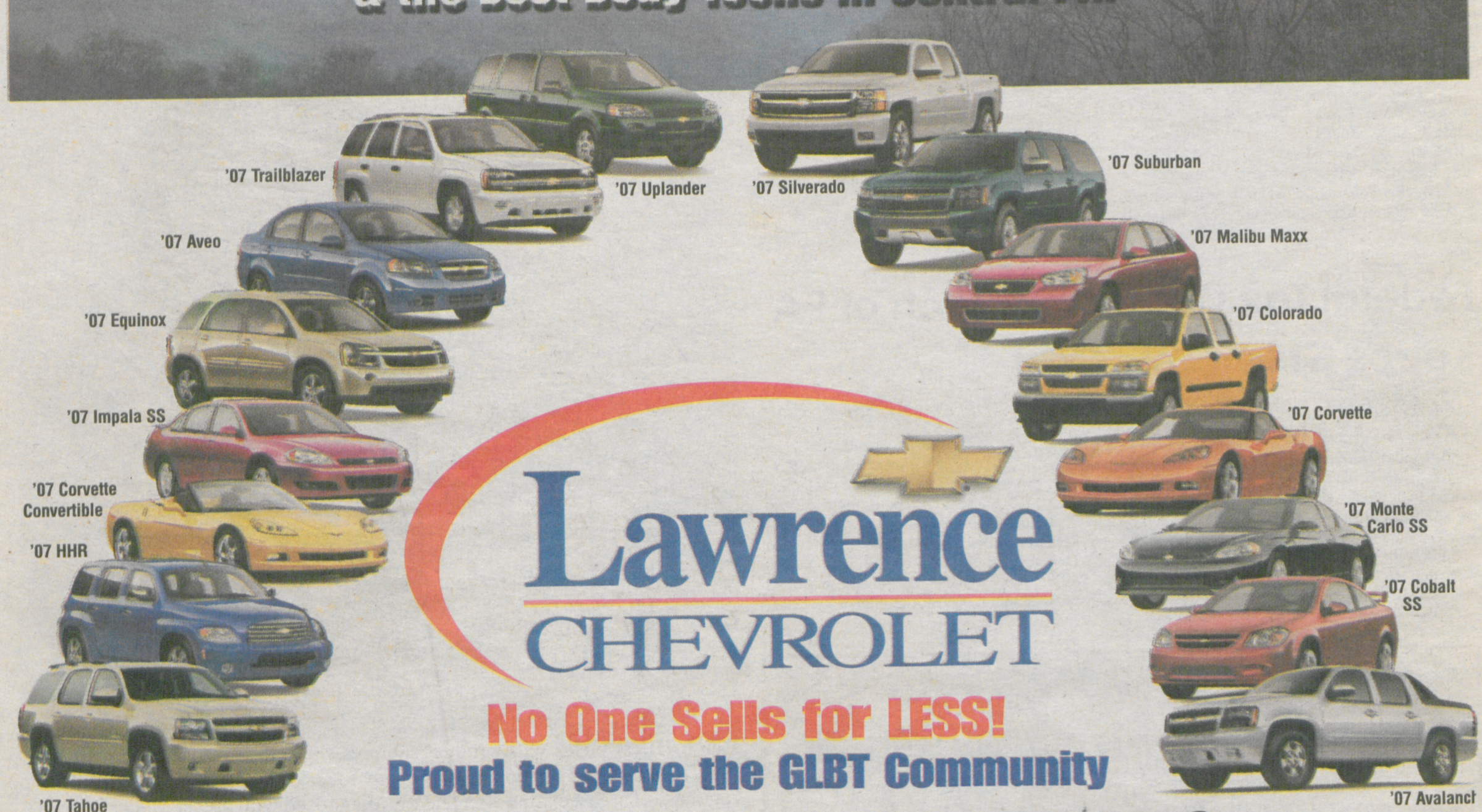

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Letters to the Editor

Vipers

Dear Editor,

I enjoyed your article on Central PA Vipers. Thank you. I really like the new logo. I think it was a good choice. We've been busy with sponsoring a Halloween Bowling Benefit, walking in the Asthma Walk and having a good time in the Harrisburg Holiday Parade. We're also planning events at the bars.

Readers are welcome to drop by our web site (www.centralpavipers.com), sign in, then go to MY SPACE account and drop by as one of our friends. Central VOICE is one of our TOP 24 Friends!

Kerry E. Wisher, Owner
Central PA Vipers
NWFA Sponsored

Double Circulation

Dear Editor,

Since our last edition of "Catalyst for Collaboration" we've nearly doubled our subscribers! Thank you to all who spread the word for us. CFC is a digest of pertinent environmental issues, stake-holder driven solutions, and upcoming events that foster collaboration via the Pennsylvania Environmental Council.

Brian J. Hill
President & CEO
Pennsylvania Environmental Council

New Format Looks Great

Dear Editor,

I just wanted to thank you for the great write up you gave me on the hot gifts page of the new Central Voice. Your new Central VOICE format looks great. Keep up the good work.

Terry Q. Bergman, Artist
ter.quin@verizon.net

What a Team

Dear Editor,

WOW! What a team you all make. I am thrilled to have such wonderful speakers from Common Roads youth group, Renaissance Transgender Association, and Central VOICE for our Talk Back sessions with community-at-large.

Ginger Roberts
Coordinator of Educational Programs
Open Stage of Harrisburg

Nice Job

Dear Editor,

You did a nice job with the most recent issue of Central VOICE.

Sincerely,
Dan Kane

New Format Looks Great

Dear Editor,

The latest edition of Central VOICE looks great!

Mindy White
Lebo Skin Care Center

Building Coalitions

Dear Editor,

Thank you for the articles concerning Carlisle's anti-discrimination ordinance prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, and Hazelton's discriminatory anti-immigrant ordinance.

These articles highlight tha while the LGBTQ community continues to work toward full equality, it must also support immigrant rights. The LGBTQ strugg against bigotry must be seen in the context of other struggles for equality and social justice. "Of course, the attacks on LGBTQ and immigrant groups are not mutually exclusive, just as the LGBTQ community and immigrant community are not mutually exclusive."

It is in all our interests to build coalitions to fight against racist, anti-immigrant policies at the federal, state and local levels.

Sincerely,
Rita Verga, Esq.
Harrisburg

Holy Closet Cases!

Dear Editor,

Did anyone else catch this statement by H.B London, bigwig at Focus on the Family on how they would rehabilitate Rev. Ted Haggard? London said," …we think in terms of what we call godly counsel, where godly men who are clean themselves insert themselves in the life of the one who is struggling." So they, like, bang the bitch 'til he gets it right?

Brett,
A Homosexual Christian

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Publisher & Editor
Frank Pizzoli
PosOps@aol.com

Correspondents
Christopher Tittel, Key West
Winnie McCroy, New York City
Jesse Smith, Philadelphia
Daniel Shepard, Chicago
Michael Petrelis, San Francisco

Contributing Writers
DJ Barry
John Barnett
Derek Cordier
Paul Hood
Daniel M. Kane
Kristen Richards
Yvonne Small
Sharon Muzio

Columnists
Libby Post, Q Syndicate
Chuck Fields, C5 Fitness

Photographer
Deb Swanger

ADVERTISING
Kristen Richards
Account Executive
717-576-4326
Ock1127@aol.com

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info@harrisburg.com

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US Rep. Charles Rangel wants to reinstate the military draft, an idea he believes would deter politicians from launching wars. Rangel is chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee. Americans would have to sign up after turning 18.

Email your thoughts to Central VOICE: posops@aol.com

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February 18
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Winter Arts Weekend '07

Folk Meets Funk

Saturday, January 20, 2007 / $35 per person

Bobbi Carmitchell 7:00-7:45

Bobbi Carmitchell and her sister, Anne, better known as The Carmitchel Sisters, have a wonderful rapport with their audience. The Carmitchel Sisters will delight you with their singing and make you laugh with their clever sarcasm and wit. Although some call it folk, Bobbi's songs are unique and her musical style is wide-ranging.

Intermission - wine & appetizers & silent auction 7:45-8:45

Charles Lee 8:45-9:30

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Ticket prices are tax-deductible and charitable donations are non-refundable

Renaissance

Transgendered Education Association
Lower Susquehanna Valley Chapter

Meeting Time: First Saturday each month–8–11p.m.
Location: Metropolitan Community Church–MCC
Address: 2973 Jefferson St. Harrisburg, PA 17110
Cost: $5 donation requested from non-members
Info: Providing a safe space for gender education and caring support for Cross Dressers, Transgendered Individuals (M2F &F2M) and those close to them. Plentiful parking in secure, low-traffic area, close to building. Light refreshments provided. Smoking and alcoholic beverages are not permitted inside. Changing area provided for those who need to dress.

January 6, 2007 - General Meeting & Discussion Groups
February 3, 2007 - General Meeting & Discussion Groups

Transgendered 101 Educational Panel Offered for Universities, Businesses, various Organizations and Government Agencies

Managing Director: Jeanine Russel – waterfilly@yahoo.com
Outreach Director: Kristen Richards – ock1127@aol.com
Address: Renaissance LSV • 2973 Jefferson St. • Harrisburg, PA 17110

Be It Resolved for 2007, and Then Some

By Frank Pizzoli, Publisher

With a new year here, we pitch our set of suggestions for action in 2007.

Email us what you think ought to be resolved (posops@aol.com) by local, state, and federal government.

Health Care Solvable Says Specter

"We can solve the health care problem if we want to," PA Senator Arlen Specter told about 150 business and community leaders at luncheon late last year. He was referring to the formation of health care coverage plans by and for small business. Under such proposals, businesses too small to afford coverage band together forming employee plans. "I may not be able to tell you how to solve environmental problems or fix world trade, but there is a way to help fix health care," Specter said. Maybe the PA General Assembly will sneak off into the night and pull a fast one during this new, two-year legislative session – and allow these plans to be formed? Or perhaps now that we have free booze for gamblers they'll goose the game a notch higher and make free sex legal too.

HIV/AIDS & the African American Community

Recently elected prexy of the local NAACP Stanley Lawson – and they either love him or hate him they all respect him – called on the local chapter to address HIV/AIDS.

We couldn't agree more. Let us know how to help (posops@aol.com).

Sensible Shoes, Sensible Zoning

We can't think of single person around here who doesn't like economic development.

In order to avoid nasty fights, we encourage Harrisburg City Council member Dan Miller to stick to his guns and insist that the city's chaotic zoning laws be revamped. Revamped citywide, that is, not on a one-deal-at-a-time basis. A level playing field, or as level as planners can assemble, is the best public policy.

Do As I Say

Amazing: Vanity Fair reports that in measurements of 9 negative social indicators, the Red States are the worst by huge numbers. Only in one measure do Red States beat blue States – they have more residents scoring lower on intelligence tests. The Red State Babylon scores highest when compared to Blue States on male and female incarceration rates, executions (must that eye for an eye stuff), death by firearms, suicide, money spent on gambling, divorce rates, illegitimacy, and obesity. Gimme some of that ole time "Do as I say, not as I do" religion.

Service to Readers & Advertisers

Finally, we resolve to continue being of service to our readers and advertisers. So far in surveys you've returned, we're hearing that Central VOICE is "fabulous, readable, that we cover a lot of topics, and carry lots of regional news."

Thank you.

GLBT Chamber of Commerce continued

der close study. "We hope to address the real needs of our members," says Boggs. "We hope to structure the new organization more formally and provide for better feedback opportunities."

The executive board recently submitted a survey to current members asking for their input regarding services they would offered by the new organization. "So far, networking remains a high priority," says membership chair Tom Caruso. "So we'll continue to emphasize the need to make connections among our members."

Boggs points out that currently BAGAL is made up of mostly of individual members who joined over the years and appreciate the opportunity to make contacts with other like-minded individuals. "Creating an identity as a chamber of commerce will further enhance those opportunities," he explains. "We'll help by building coalitions, not only among individuals, but also among gay-owned and gay-friendly businesses, professionals and business students."

"The chamber will be a voice within the region's business community," Chambers adds. "It will provide advocacy for glbt issues affect business both positively and negatively in central Pennsylvania." Chambers indicates that as a chamber of commerce, the organization will monitor and respond to legislative and regulatory initiatives having an impact on business like same-sex partner benefits. Just as important, she notes, is the positive effort the new chamber will have in building and promoting a glbt-positive business environment in the area.

"It is noteworthy," comments David Zwifka, the organization's treasurer, "that this effort is taking place in central Pennsylvania. It is the only glbt chamber of commerce in the Commonwealth." He notes Philadelphia and Pittsburgh have not taken this step toward active support of the glbt business community. "It shows that central Pennsylvania can be a friendly environment for glbt businesses. Although that openness is uneven in the region, it is nonetheless alive and well."

Asked why there is an identifiable level of openness despite the area's conservative reputation, Zwifka says studies in other regions show diversity is often more greatly appreciated depending on the level of education, the value placed on creativity, and the cultural opportunities available.

"State government, regional and national companies located in the area, and the education and arts communities bring together people who have lived in similar social environments," Zwifka says. Such populations tend, he says, to have a broader viewpoint on social issues."

Boggs notes that the new organization will retain BAGAL's "sphere of influence" by including Harrisburg, York, and Lancaster as its geographical base. "However," Boggs says, "we will not limit our efforts to these cities alone," noting that opportunities exist beyond this more immediate market and extend into surrounding counties like Lebanon, Cumberland, and Adams.

In early 2007, the new chamber will inaugurate a new web site giving wider exposure to the area's glbt business community. The web site will provide opportunities for the chamber to act as a clearinghouse for "a great deal of information for our members and the wider community about glbt businesses," says Chambers, who has managed BAGAL's web presence for many years. "The new web site will be more interactive and provide information on member businesses as well as events and happenings within the business community."

"In 2006, we affiliated with the National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce," noted Boggs. "Through that affiliation, our new web site will link us with the glbt business community nationwide. We will also provide valuable information on national matters affecting our local business community."

"It is an added advantage to have a presence in Harrisburg, the state capital," notes Zwifka. "We can provide a voice for glbt businesses with state offices if needed."

Boggs says the new organization will continue to reach out to the area's other chambers to form partnerships and mutually beneficial agreements. "No need to 'reinvent the wheel'," he says. "Where we can form cooperative partnerships with existing organizations, we will so that our members receive the highest level of service and benefit."

HARRISBURG SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Stuart Malina, Music Director

Brahms' Symphonic Farewell

Masterworks Series featuring guest artist Tai Murray ▸

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January 13 @ 8PM
January 14 @ 3PM
The Forum, Harrisburg

Zwilich - *Prologue and Variations*
Barber - *Violin Concerto*
Brahms - *Symphony No. 4*

The Harrisburg Symphony's Masterworks series continues in January, featuring violinist extraordinaire Tai Murray performing Samuel Barber's Violin Concerto. Stuart Malina will also conduct Brahms' 4th Symphony and Zwilich's Prologue and Variations for string orchestra.

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HMS Pinafore

Capital BlueCross Pops Series featuring TV & Film Actor Josh Malina ▸

West Wing's Josh Malina as Rt. Hon. Sir Joseph Porter

January 27 @ 8PM
January 28 @ 3PM
The Forum, Harrisburg

The Capital BlueCross Pops presents Gilbert & Sullivan's HMS Pinafore (concert version) featuring a strong cast of vocalists including major film and television actor Josh Malina. The production also includes a return performance by Maestro Malina's brother Joel Malina, as well as the Susquehanna Chorale.

The satirical light opera playfully focuses on love between members of different social classes in English society. HMS Pinafore combines comedy and memorable tunes to delight audiences of all ages!

Tickets at HarrisburgSymphony.org or by calling 717.545.5527

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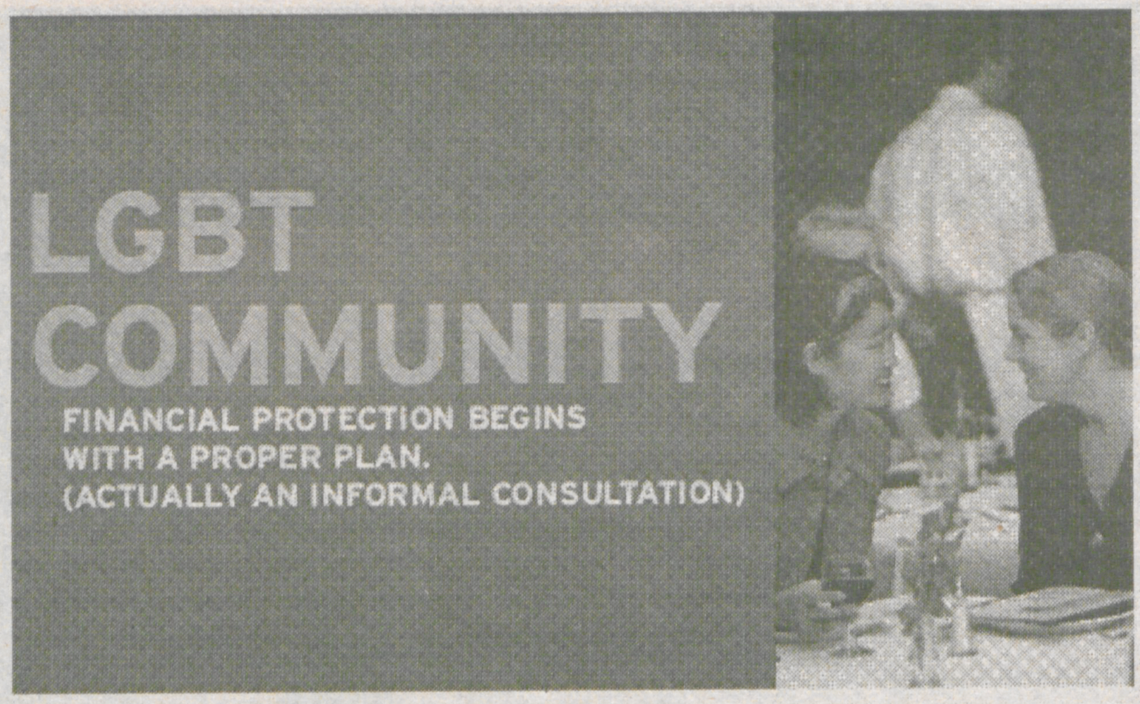

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Start New Year with a Will & Important Documents

By Derek J. Cordier, Esquire

A perfect way to start the New Year is with a Will. If you die without a Will or a spouse in Pennsylvania, your estate passes to your children. If you do not have children, your estate passes to your parents, then to your brothers and sisters or their children. Your grandparents are next, and then on down the family line until your estate goes to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Who will be the administrator of you estate is also governed by state law.

If you have a partner and die without a Will, the partner may not only end up with nothing, but may have to go to court to prove ownership of what was rightfully theirs. If you have minor children, a court may appoint a guardian that may not be the person you hoped to raise them. Even with a small estate a Will is important because if you die in an accident because of negligence, the person named in your Will could benefit from an award or settlement. Larger estates should utilize estate planning to make sure that they are not taxed more than the law requires. Another consideration is funeral arrangements. If you do not leave specific instructions as to your wishes, those closest to you may not have any rights to your remains and could even be barred from the funeral. A Will can prove your intent to choose someone other than your next of kin to have rights to your remains. (Next of kin have rights by state law).

Two documents that allow you to decide who makes health care decisions when you are incapacitated are the Power of Attorney for Health Care and the Living Will. Without a Power of Attorney for Health Care, those closest to you may not only be barred from making medical decisions, but may be barred from the hospital as well. However, a Power of Attorney for Health Care does not necessarily allow those closest to you to stop life support so a Living Will, called an Advanced Directive for Health Care, is needed to carry out those wishes. It is also recommended that you carry a Medical Identification Card that simply states who to contact in case of an emergency.

Another important document is the Power of Attorney for Finances, which allows someone else to make financial decisions for you, including making payments and writing checks. Basically, with this document anything you can do financially can also be accomplished by the person you appoint. This power is especially important if you become incapacitated. However, this power can be designed to be broad or specific, such as simply allowing the transfer of an automobile.

All of these documents are very inexpensive considering the rights they convey and the peace of mind they give. A Simple Will should not cost more that $100.00 and the Power of Attorney for Health Care, Living Will, and Power of Attorney for Finances should be less than that. You can get these in kits over the internet, but are not recommended, especially the Powers of Attorney, as Pennsylvania has specific notice requirements. Also, using an attorney will help ensure that the documents are correct.

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A Domestic Partnership Checklist Is Important

by Ronald R. Wetzel Jr., Financial Advisor, Smith Barney

Financial planning can be difficult for anyone. For same-sex couples, it can be even more complicated. With a little foresight and the right information, same-sex partners can properly plan so that they and their children are prepared for major life events.

Start by asking the difficult "what if" questions: Can I protect income and assets for my partner and myself? How can my partner receive income if he or she is ineligible to receive my pension benefits? What steps should I take to protect my partner or myself if one of us is hospitalized? The best way to start answering these questions is to create a financial plan, addressing your long-term needs and goals. That plan should encompass most, or all, of the elements below.

Make a will. A will and/or a trust confirming your intentions can help ensure that your assets are distributed as you desire. If you die without a will, intestacy laws will not leave your assets to an unrelated partner.

Designate beneficiaries. Many assets, such as life insurance, 401(k)s and individual retirement accounts, are transferred according to beneficiary designations and typically are not subject to probate. Thus, same-sex couples may wish to list each other as beneficiaries on individual accounts and policies.

Make a property agreement. If you are going to pool money, share assets, financially support each other and incur debt together, consider creating a property agreement or joint tenancy agreement in order to address the possibilities of death or separation.

Make a durable power of attorney. A power of attorney gives a person financial authority to act on your behalf. You may wish to give someone that power in case you become incapacitated.

Make a health care proxy and living will. Often, in medical emergencies, hospitals and doctors do not recognize a same-sex partner as a family member. Therefore, you may wish to have a health care proxy, which designates an agent (such as your partner) to make medical decisions for you in the event of your incapacity. The living will outlines a person's wishes with regard to feeding and other life-sustaining measures.

Designate a POD/TOD beneficiary. A number of states have payable-on-death (POD) or transfer-on-death (TOD) laws. A POD/TOD beneficiary designation lets you transfer bank accounts, securities, securities accounts and other property at death without probate.

Make a joint custody agreement. As of now, 17 states allow second-parent adoptions. If your state isn't one, a joint custody agreement should be considered in order to ensure a partner's rights to see a deceased partner's child.

Special planning is necessary for same-sex partnerships. A Financial Advisor can work with your attorneys and other specialists to help you create a plan that provides important rights and protections for you, your partner and your children.

Ronald R. Wetzel Jr. is a Financial Advisor with Smith Barney located in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and may be reached at 717-780-1789 or ronald.r.wetzel.jr@smithbarney.com.

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Lébo Skin Care Offers Mineral Make Up

Are you less than impressed with the heavy, mask-like look and feel of traditional liquid and cream foundations? If so, than Lébo Skin Care Center has the answer for you with our Bare Escentuals mineral make up. Bare Escentuals is 100% pure bare minerals that are free of preservatives, talc, oil, fragrances, and other harmful chemicals that can irritate the skin. This make up provides impeccable coverage for every skin type and skin tone, and protects with a natural sunscreen. The unique formula is made entirely from crushed creamy, weightless minerals that are actually good for your skin!

Bare Escentuals foundation takes years off your skin due to its light-diffusing qualities. Fine lines are softened and minimized because this makeup doesn't settle into pores and lines like traditional liquid and creams can. Its featherweight property means you don't feel it on your skin, and it's so sheer, you don't look made up at all. No matter what your skin type or condition, Bare Escentuals foundation covers imperfections flawlessly. Bare Escentuals also offers complete color cosmetics designed to enhance your natural beauty such as lip sticks, lip liners, blushes, lip glosses, mascaras, skin preps, flawless application brushes, and more

Lébo Skin Care Center offers free makeovers with Bare Escentuals make up. Lébo's certified make up artists will not only choose the perfect make up for you, but will also teach you the proper way to apply it. Christine Caravella and Sally Campbell have combined experience of more than 15 years in the business.

Lébo Skin Care Center's hours in the York office (717-747-9950) are Monday and Wednesday from 9am to 8pm and Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9am to 5pm and the Hanover office (717-646-9950) on Monday from 12pm to 7pm and Tuesday and Thursday from 9am to 5pm. Call today to schedule your free makeover!

Marietta Local Example

Reverse Psychology: Insourcing to PA by US Subsidiaries

US subsidiaries in Pennsylvania employ 225,600 Pennsylvanians.

Pennsylvania has proven to be an attractive location for international employers, ranking 6th in the nation in the number of employees supported by US subsidiaries.

In fact, the relative portion of jobs in the state supplied by US subsidiaries remains sig-

Companies Insourcing into PA

- ACE Group
- AEGON USA
- AgustaWestland North America
- Air Liquide
- Akzo Nobel
- Alcon
- Allianz
- AMEC
- AREVA Inc.
- Arkema Inc.
- BAE Systems, Inc.
- BASF
- Bayer
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- Cadbury Schweppes
- DaimlerChrysler
- Deutsche Telekom
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- Nestlé USA, Inc.
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- Sodexho
- Sony
- Square D
- Sumitomo Corp.
- Tyco
- Voith
- Volvo
- XL Capital Group
- Zausner Foods Corp.
- Zurich North America

Rainbow Market Report

Company	Symbol	Year High	Year Low	11/30/06 Close	Fortune 500
Aetna Inc	AET	52.48	30.94	41.43	×
American Airlines	AMR	34.40	17.25	31.96	×
Apple Computer Inc.	AAPL	93.16	50.16	91.66	×
AT&T Corp.	T	35.00	24.24	33.91	×
Bausch & Lomb Inc	BOL	83.60	40.75	48.42	
Best Buy Co. Inc.	BBY	59.50	42.75	54.97	×
Borders Group Inc.	BGP	25.49	16.20	22.90	×
Daimler Chrysler Corp.	DCX	62.24	45.98	58.29	
Dell Inc.	DELL	33.22	18.95	27.24	×
Estee Lauder Companies	EL	43.60	32.71	41.29	×
Ford Motor Co.	F	9.48	6.06	8.13	×
Gap Inc.	GPS	21.39	15.91	18.72	×
General Mills Inc.	GIS	57.25	47.05	55.95	×
Intel Corp.	INTC	27.28	16.75	21.39	×
Intuit Inc.	INTU	35.98	23.99	31.52	
Johnson & Johnson	JNJ	69.41	56.65	65.91	×
Kraft Foods Inc.	KFT	36.67	27.44	35.05	
MetLife	MET	60.00	48.00	58.73	×
Microsoft Corp.	MSFT	30.00	21.46	29.36	×
Molson Coors Brewing Company	TAP	74.10	60.75	71.08	×
New York Times Co.	NYT	28.98	21.54	24.14	
Nike Inc.	NKE	99.30	75.52	98.95	×
Nordstrom Inc.	JWN	50.79	31.77	49.02	×
PepsiCo Inc.	PEP	65.99	56.00	61.97	×
Sears, Roebuck & Co.	SHLD	182.38	114.90	171.53	×
Sprint Corp.	S	26.89	15.92	19.51	×
Toyota Motor Sales, USA Inc.	TM	125.02	94.52	120.05	
US Airways Group	LCC	63.27	28.30	56.76	×
Viacom Inc.	VIA	39.01	32.42	37.60	×
Walgreens Co.	WAG	51.60	39.55	40.49	×
Whirlpool Corp.	WHR	96.00	74.07	85.30	×
Xerox Corp.	XRX	17.31	13.16	16.50	×

Not offered as financial advice. Companies selected from HRC data.

continued on page 17

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By Kristen Richards

Transgender Jennifer Boylan Rocks Carlisle

Jennifer Boylan's 2003 memoir "She Not There: A Life in Two Genders" is inspiring, poignant, and intelligent. She is also witty. Boylan recently spoke at Carlisle's Dickinson College, intriguing students and faculty, while discussing her gender transformation from James to Jennifer Boylan.

Self Acceptance Brings Success

With her successful memoir, Boylan has appeared on Oprah, Today, Larry King Live, 48 Hours, NPR and is a regular contributor to GQ, People, Allure and Glamour. She grew up outside Philadelphia where Boylan says during her early years "things were just not right."\

After a Johns Hopkins masters degree, Boylan fell in love and married a woman she calls "Grace." Boylan thought love – and her marriage to Grace could cure her and her sense of feeling female would disappear. In 1988, the couple moved to Main, had two children and Boylan began teaching English at Colby College. She also played in a rock band and wrote several novels. Behind the scenes, Boylan lived in perpetual torment, preferring to remain closeted to spare her loved ones and herself from great pain and sadness.

Eventually, Boylan had no choice but to deal with her transsexuality. Boylan forged a transition path, including psychotherapy, female hormones, electrolysis, voice training and ultimately, gender reassignment surgery.

Food for Thought

Boylan excels at explaining gender variances in very simple ways. "It's not who you want to go to bed with, it's who you want to go to bed as," she explains. She explains that in order to understand transsexuals requires a sense of imagination because their lives are dominated by something unimaginable. "A person's discontent within their own skin could be so severe as to make any other life inconceivable."

Her memoir contains an intriguing quote from best friend and Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Richard Russo: "The mystery of people resides at our human center and constitutes the deeper truth of our being. Those truths we often keep secret. To reveal them makes us vulnerable. To an even deeper mystery than the secrets we keep is the mystery of how our hearts incline toward another person, how one's soul selects another for its company, how we recognize companion souls as we make our way through the world in awkward bodies that betray us at every turn. This is not is not the special dilemma of the transgendered, it's in all of us."

Closure

Love, friendship and faith helped Boylan remain grounded during her gender transformation.

The most painful aspect of her journey says Boylan was "hurting my friends and loved ones."

"All of us will face something in our lifetime, something we will have to change about ourselves, something that may seem impossible. We must find the courage to change in our hearts," Boylan concluded.

Solartech continued

nesses, and especially new home builders and green builders. More information on green builders can be found at www.gbacpa.org. "We can help just about anyone tired of paying high prices for fuel and electricity," Wolfe says.

SolarTech provides Certified Installation of Enerworks Solar water heating appliances (www.enerworks.com) made in Canada, and California-made Fireball and Quantum solar water heating systems (www.solarroofs.com), plus Florida's Solar Energy.com (www.solarenergy.com).

"Every system we install carries the OG100 and OG300 federal standard certification," Wolfe says. In simple terms that means "our systems have been extensively tested and meet or exceed federal guidelines to qualify for the federal tax credit."

Wolfe explains that there is a "30 % federal tax credit currently available for qualified solar water heating systems installed in a home. The Pennsylvania House late last year was considering a proposal for an additional 25% state income tax credit. The bottom line is customers often see up to a 60% reduction in hot water production costs.

Wolfe believes solar energy use in the state is severely under used and wants to increase awareness of the cost-saving benefits of solar water heating and other renewable applications. Some applications capture the sun's energy, like radiant floor heating and power generation that relies on photovoltaic panels. In some European countries solar water heating is mandated for new construction and is highly government funded when installed in existing buildings.

Contact: 1.877.636.3475

Oscar: Golden Boy Goes Gay

by John DiLeo

Are you still smarting over Oscar's homophobic snub of *Brokeback Mountain* in favor of overblown *Crash*? Then you may be in an unforgiving mood regarding anything Oscar-related. Even so, let's zip through Academy cinematic history to see how gays fared pre-*Brokeback*.

John DiLeo

Two of Oscar's earliest Best Pictures feature male nudity, not gay but homoerotic.

In *Wings* (1927), bare-assed recruits are glimpsed during their physicals, while the tenderness between fliers Richard Arlen and Buddy Rogers feels subtextually romantic.

First Talking Gay (In a movie)

In *All Quiet on the Western Front* (1930), skinny dipping soldiers cavort merrily. Another Best Picture, *The Broadway Melody* (1929), has a nelly costumer, perhaps the sound era's first talking gay.

In *Morocco* (1930), Marlene Dietrich's tuxedo-clad singer plants a full-mouth kiss on a female patron. Dietrich got nominated, but there wouldn't be such gender-bending moments once the Production Code began sanitizing Hollywood in 1934.

Lesbian Housekeeper

Two Best Picture nominees, *Test Pilot* (1938) and *The Talk of the Town* (1942), present love triangles in which a man and a woman both love the same man. Though the women get the love objects, the films delicately depict same-sex love, with Spencer Tracy hopelessly devoted to Clark Gable in the former, and Ronald Colman smitten with Cary Grant in the latter. But it was Judith Anderson as the lesbian housekeeper in *Rebecca* (1940), obsessed with the dead title character, who became the first performer nominated for a gay role.

Casablanca

Sydney Greenstreet was the first actor nominated for playing a gay man, in *The Maltese Falcon* (1941), beginning an Academy trend of nominating actors who played sophisticated men of not-so-questionable sexuality, continuing with Claude Rains in *Casablanca* (1943), who barely contains his infatuation with Bogie. A trio of Oscar-nominated turns came from Clifton Webb, as a witty villain in *Laura* (1944), a snobby socialite in *The Razor's Edge* (1946), and a prissy babysitter in *Sitting Pretty* (1948). No one, even then, could imagine these characters waiting for the right girl.

James Dean & Sal Mineo

Explicitly gay was 16-year-old nominee Sal Mineo in *Rebel without a Cause* (1955), transformed by puppy love for James Dean. Paul Newman got nominated for *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (1958), but Tennessee Williams's play found its gayness gutted. *Ben-Hur* (1959), a Bible epic no less, had the strongest gay content yet seen in a Best Picture, with Stephen Boyd's intense rendering of gay love and lust turned to fury.

Florence of Arabia

Lawrence of Arabia (1962) was Oscar's first Best Picture with a gay leading role. Though Lawrence's homosexuality was treated hazily, it was suggestively conveyed by nominee Peter O'Toole. O'Toole received two nominations for playing bisexual Henry II, in *Becket* (1964), where he's tormented by feelings for Richard Burton's Becket, and *The Lion in Winter* (1968), set later in Henry's life but still referring to his love for Becket.

70s Permissiveness

The new permissiveness of the 1970s meant that gays could finally be portrayed openly with films like *Sunday, Bloody Sunday* (1971), *Dog Day Afternoon* (1975), *A Special Day* (1977), *Only When I Laugh* (1981), *Victor/Victoria* (1982), *Silkwood* (1983), *The Dresser* (1983), and *Kiss of the Spider Woman* (1985).

Then Came AIDS

AIDS-related films garnered nominations for Bruce Davison in *Longtime Companion* (1990), Greg Kinnear in *As Good As It Gets* (1997), Javier Bardem in *Before Night Falls* (2000), and Ed Harris in *The Hours* (2002), with Tom Hanks winning for *Philadelphia* (1993). True-life gays from other eras brought nominations to Tommy Lee Jones in *JFK* (1991) and Ian McKellen in *Gods and Monsters* (1998).

Gender Benders

Gender-issue films got nominations for Jaye Davidson in *The Crying Game* (1992) and Felicity Huffman in *Transamerica* (2005), with Hilary Swank winning for *Boys Don't Cry* (1999). Two recent winners, Charlize Theron in *Monster* (2003) and Philip Seymour Hoffman in *Capote* (2005), played gays in films in which gayness wasn't the subject. Finally, *Brokeback*'s Heath Ledger and Jake Gyllenhaal were nominated for creating American film's most intimate and moving gay relationship. How long before the Academy gets another chance to honor a gay story told so beautifully?

John DiLeo's most recent book is 100 Great Film Performances You Should Remember But Probably Don't.

We Are What We Choose

We're all, to some extent, a product of our choices.

That includes those of you who may have overindulged a bit over the holidays. Yes you – sitting there reading this after switching from Pepsi to Pepto as your beverage of choice for the New Year.

January is a time most of us reflect on the choices we've made, and resolve on some new ones. We decide we're going to save some money, heck, maybe even donate some. We're going to be kind to strangers. We're going to eat lots of bran, and smile at the woman who cuts us off on 83, and spend all our free time at the gym.

You know how this goes. We go to the gym and work the upper body one day, the lower body the next. Cardio. Maybe a spin class or two.

Religiously.

For a week and a half.

Then we stay out a bit late the night before, and the snooze button says, "Push me, baby. You know you want to."

continued on page 14

Experince it at the Strand-Capitol!

Paula Poundstone
Sat., Jan. 20, 2007
7:30pm
With a legendary ability to create humor on the spot, HBO and NPR star Poundstone improvises with a crowd like a jazz musician.
Presenting sponsor: YORK A JOHNSON CONTROLS COMPANY
Media sponsor: WITF-FM

Pirates of Penzance
Fri., March 2, 2007 • 7:30pm
From England's Carl Rosa Company comes one of Gilbert and Sullivan's most popular works and a Broadway smash!

Presenting sponsor: Southern County Catering

Fifty ★ Years
JOFFREY BALLET
Wed., March 7, 2007 • 7:30pm
The first American company to tour the former Soviet Union, perform at the White House, and in over 400 U.S. cities and in all 50 states. The quintessential dance company.
Presenting sponsor: Perform Group, LLC

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Gay Iranian Man Hanged in Public

A gay Iranian man was hanged in public November 14, 2006 in the western city of Kermanshah on the charge of sodomy.

Shahab Darvishi was charged with organising a "corruption ring", deliberate assault, and "lavat", which means homosexual relationship between two men or sodomy, the official news agency IRNA reported.

Darvishi was hanged in the evening in Kermanshah's "Freedom Square" in front of hundreds of people, the report said.

Under Iran's Islamic Penal Code, homosexuality between consenting adults is a capital crime and official Iranian sources express hostility to homosexual practices. A state radio commentary on March 7, 2005 criticised gay marriages in Western countries.

Ayatollah Ebrahim Amini, an influential cleric, said in a prayer sermon in Qom that gay and lesbian marriages reflect a weakness of Western culture.

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Financial: Considering a Roth IRA

By Maryanne Knaub

If you're looking for a retirement plan with flexible withdrawal rules, consider a Roth Individual Retirement Account (IRA). Here are the particulars on this highly rated program:

Unlike other IRAs, contributions to a Roth IRA are not tax-deferred. Your contributions are from after-tax income; therefore, accumulating and qualified withdrawing are completely tax free.

Distribution Guidelines

Contribution dollars can be withdrawn from a Roth IRA at any time, but earnings made with after-tax income from your investments can be withdrawn tax- and penalty-free only if you have at least one Roth IRA that has been in existence for at least five years, and the distribution is made for one of the following reasons:

Contributor is 59-and-a-half-years-old.

Contributor has died.

Contributor becomes disabled.

Contributor wants to pay for the purchase or construction of a first home ($10,000

Consider a Roth IRA before age 59-and-a-half for college expenses.

Contribution Limits

Contributions to a Roth IRA in 2006 are limited to $4,000 or 100% of your earned income (whichever is less). Married couples can contribute up to $8,000. Contributions are restricted based on your income and filing status. You are not eligible for a Roth IRA if you make over $110,000 per year (single) or $160,000 (married). Contributors age 50 and older have a catch-up limit of $5,000 in 2006.

Roth IRAs can be held in FDIC deposit products or securities. Check with a financial planner to make sure a Roth IRA is a good choice for your situation. For more information, visit irs.gov and search for "Roth IRA. AHMLR-060604653

Maryanne Knaub is Sr. Loan Consultant, American Home Mortgage, 3063 Columbia Avenue Lancaster, PA 17603. Work: 717-239-7660; Fax: 866-719-9827; Toll Free: 877-763-9292; Cell: 717-580-8868; Maryanne.Knaub@americanhm.com

Central PA Vipers participated in the Asthma Walk and the Harrisburg Holiday Parade. Shown here at their Halloween Bowling Benefit are, from left, **Lesly Trinta, Dez Omo, Kelly A. Monaghan.**

Common Roads' 2nd Annual Winter Arts Weekend '07

Tickets are now available for Folk Meets Funk Jan. 20. Common Roads is holding its second annual Winter Arts Weekend, featuring performances by Bobbi & Anne Carmitchell and Charles Lee, Harrisburg's American Idol, at the Rose Lehrman Arts Center, Harrisburg Area Community College, 7-9:30 p.m.

Bobbi and Anne, better known as the Carmitchell Sisters, have a wonderful rapport with audiences. They will delight you with their harmonies and make you laugh with their clever sarcasm and wit. Though some call it folk, Bobbi's songs are unique and wide-ranging.

Charles Lee puts on a one-man show full of the flavors of urban blues and Motown. This human dynamo with a phenomenal vocal range performs hits from the 50s and 60s, Cabaret, Motown and more.

In between these two dynamic acts will be a complimentary wine, beer and culinary reception and silent auction: sample the best that central Pennsylvania's finest restaurants and caterers have to offer while bidding on your favorite fine arts and craft items.

Tickets for the event are $35 per person; patron level sponsorships at $100 are also available, which include two tickets to the performance and reception along with listing in the program.

All proceeds will benefit Common Roads, the region's only nonprofit organization dedicated to the support and advocacy of LGBTQ youth.

Information: Call 920-9534, e-mail info@commonroads.org, or visit www.commonroads.org.

Manhunt.net Tops Gay.com

DestinationMale.com Aims at Changing Market

"A fresh approach to addressing the needs and desires of gay and bisexual men to connect for sex and love online is needed," says gay owned Alternative Media Group, LLC.'s president Will Shephard. New to the market DestinationMale.com is focusing efforts on the highest quality site possible in the face of a complex and changing online market", he says.

"It became very clear to us in our focus groups and from the research we did prior to developing the site that gay men are definitely looking for new options online," Shepard says.

Meanwhile, late last year Manhunt.net became the top glbt website nationwide, edging out previous leader Gay.com by over two percentage points in market share. According to the latest results by Hitwise.com, a web tracking agency, Manhunt.net scored 21.4 percent market share of the online glbt community in the final quarter of 2006, a 5 percent rise from last year (16.62). Gay.com fell from 32.7 percent market share in 2005 to 19.01, losing close to 13 percent of their hold of the online glbt community.

"The tortoise has finally passed the hare," said Jonathon Crutchley, a founding Partner of the Boston-based Manhunt.net. "We did it the old fashioned way, building a business city by city, making ourselves part of the local gay communities through partnerships with gay nightclubs, bars, businesses, and especially through outreach to the health community. We didn't have millions of dollars of other people's money to throw at marketing." The website is primarily geared to facilitate gay male sexual hook ups, but has grown into a place where friendships and serious relationships can begin.

In contrast, Shepard points out "We are seeing a trend away from the mainstream commercial dating sites owned for the most part by straight corporations catering to the gay market. This is due largely to a growing disillusionment with not finding Mr. Right and with the high monthly membership fees some sites charge for premium service. On the other hand, our research also indicates a disenchantment with the options offered by a growing number of hardcore hookup sites that take the opposite approach by offering discounted memberships with explicit photos of super buff guys looking only for no strings sex. Needless to say these are two opposite extremes in both genres and there are a whole lot of guys who find themselves somewhere in between."

Alternative Media Group concluded that the timing was right for a custom designed hybrid site that offers a comfortable place between hooking up and serious dating in an atmosphere that clearly also makes a statement about the value of the total gay man regardless of their age. Restrictions have been placed on the type of photos permitted in all member ads public or private. For example, no sex acts allowed nor text references to crystal meth activities such as (PNP) "party and play".

When You Have Them by the Crucifix, Their Hearts & Minds Follow

"We find what Father Lavin and the Diocese of Camden have done to be completely unacceptable," HeartStrong Executive Director Marc Adams says. Adams was profiled in past issue of Central VOICE.

> HeartStrong provides outreach and support to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered students from religious educational institutions for ten years. Adams' is a co-founder and volunteer executive director.

"We refuse to allow them to imply that my message and the message of HeartStrong is wrong, sinful or unacceptable. They may be able to attempt to try to intimidate or silence those who subscribe to their beliefs, but they can't silence or intimidate HeartStrong," Adams says.

The Diocese of Camden, New Jersey, leased space for three years to the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the South Jersey Shore. Now, the congregation has been forced out of their leased space without warning because of their commitment to truth.

Gay author and activist Adams was scheduled late last year to share his personal story and speak about HeartStrong, a non profit educational organization providing outreach and support to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender students from religious educational institutions. The scheduling of that program sparked a wildfire of resistance and anti-gay Catholic positioning.

Here's the sequence of events:

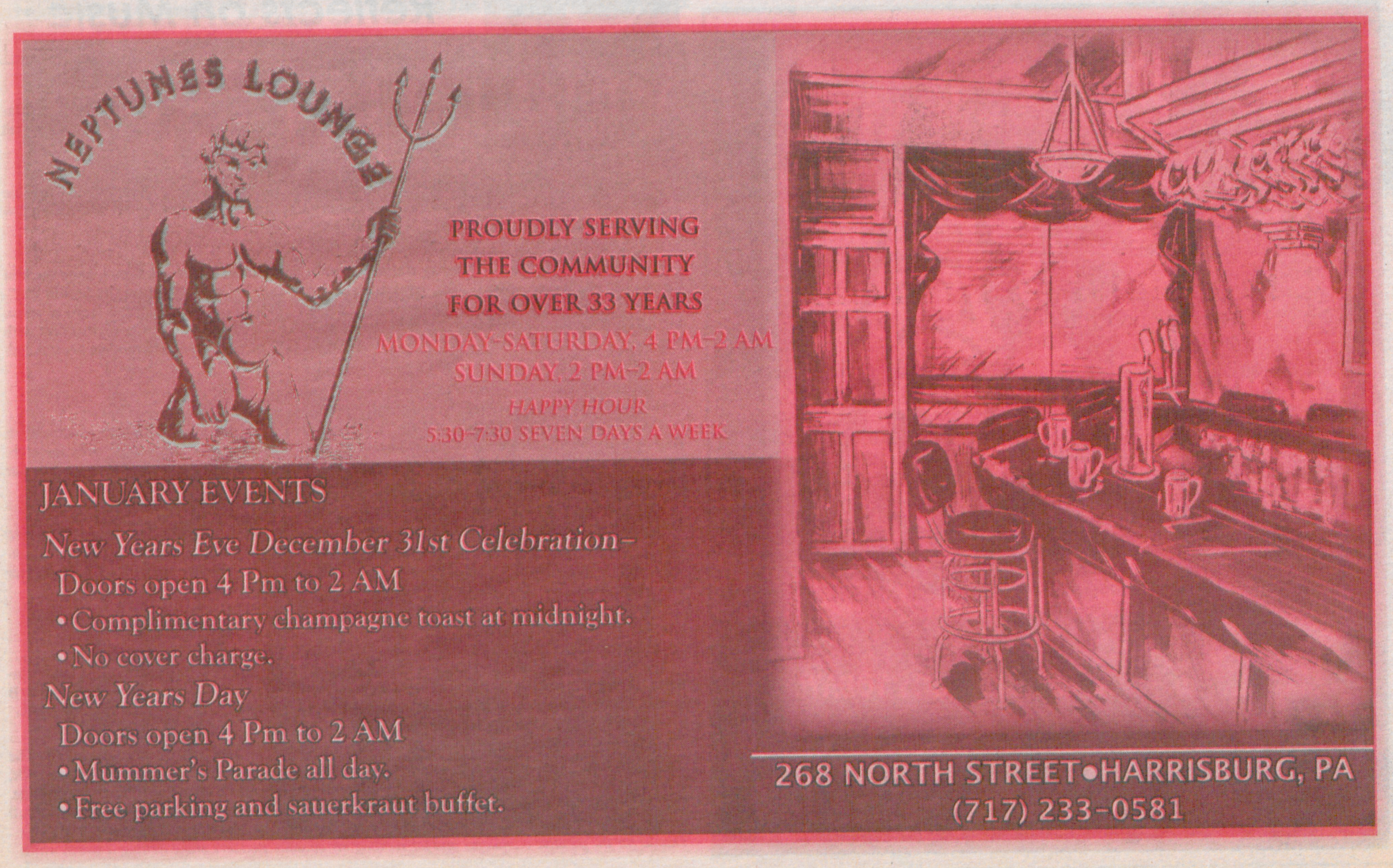
The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the South Jersey Shore leased space from the Campus Catholic Ministry Center at Stockton College in Pomona, New Jersey, since February, 2004.

Last November, Father Pat Lavin, Catholic Campus Ministry Center, called Betsy Searight, UUC administrator reporting he had received numerous phone calls from the Knights of Columbus disapproving of Adams' program. Lavin said he was concerned that he would be fired if the Sunday service with Adams was offered.

The UUC board of directors chose to go forward as planned with the service. The next day a lawyer for the Diocese of Camden, New Jersey, called to say that the church's lease was null and void and the service would not be permitted to go on as scheduled.

After a UUC lawyer communicated with the diocese, the diocese temporarily backed off, fearing, Adams says, public scrutiny of their actions. The church has since been directed that their lease is still terminated.

"There is nothing wrong with our message," Adams states. "For more than 10 years we have provided hope and help to many people from religious schools. About one-third of the students who come to us for assistance are from Catholic schools. They are victims of the same intimidation tactics that have been used here against UUC."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Theatre Roundup

STRAND-CAPITOL HOT FOR 2007

Capitol Cinema Sundays 2007 Winter Schedule
(All films @ 3:00 & 7:30pm, except where noted)
Jan. 7 - Keeping Mum (R)
Jan. 14 - Cinema Paradiso (R)
Jan. 21 - Shut Up and Sing (R)
Jan. 28 - Creature From The Black Lagoon (in 3D) (G)
Feb. 11 - The Queen (PG-13)
Feb. 18 - Casablanca (PG)
Mar. 4 - Little Children (R)
Mar. 11 - Lawrence of Arabia (in 70mm) (PG) 2:00pm
Mar. 18 - Volver (R)
Mar. 25 - La Dolce Vita (NR) 2:00 & 7:30pm

GIFT IDEA

Tickets to the 2006-2007 Chef's Back Door Series make great gifts! For a complete schedule of dates and restaurants, call the Strand-Capitol box office: 717-846-1111.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Paula Poundstone - Jan. 20
I Can't Stop Loving You - Feb. 1
The Pirates of Penzance - March 2
Joffrey Ballet - March 7
Joseph & The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat - March 12
Lost In Yonkers - April 3
Jesus Christ Superstar - May 3

VOLUNEERS NEEDED

Did you know the Strand-Capitol could not operate without volunteers? Opportunities for volunteers exist throughout, in administration, data entry, box office, ushering, concessions and more! Be a part of the arts and volunteer! Email us for a volunteer application! Now filling 2007 positions!

hairspray Comes to Hershey

BROADWAY'S BIG FAT MUSICAL COMEDY HIT

"IF LIFE WERE EVERYTHING IT SHOULD BE, IT WOULD BE MORE LIKE 'HAIRSPRAY."—The New York Times

It's time to let your hair down and dance the night away! HAIRSPRAY, Broadway's musical comedy phenomenon directed by john Waters, is coming to Hershey Theatre for eight performances, Jan. 23-28.

After its acclaimed world premiere at Seattle's 5th Avenue Theatre in June 2002, the fantastically fun musical opened on Broadway in August 2002 to rave reviews, winning eight 2003 Tony Awards, including Best Musical. And now, the people of central Pennsylvania will be swept away to 1960s Baltimore in this mega-hit, piled bouffant-high with laughter and romance – and enough deliriously tuneful songs to fill a nonstop platter party.

Everyone is raving about this delightful musical, including the critics. "A great big fat gorgeous hit," claims Clive Barnes of the New York Post. "Completely irresistible! Get those tickets now!" declares syndicated columnist, Liz Smith. "So many numbers bring down the house, it's a wonder the theater is still standing," says Jeremy Gerard of New York Magazine.

In HAIRSPRAY it's 1962—the '50s are out and change is in the air. Baltimore's Tracy Turnblad, a big girl with big hair and an even bigger heart, has only one passion—to dance. She wins a spot on the local TV dance program, "The Corny Collins Show" and, overnight, is transformed from outsider to irrepressible teen celebrity. But can a plus-size trendsetter in dance and fashion vanquish the program's reigning princess, win the heart of heartthrob Link Larkin, and integrate a television show without denting her 'do? Only in HAIRSPRAY! Welcome to the '60s!

Eight performances, Jan. 23-28: Tuesday - Thursday at 7:30 pm; Friday at 8 pm; Saturday at 2 & 8 pm; and Sunday at 2 & 7:30 pm at Hershey Theatre. Tickets are $35 to $65, and may be purchased by calling the Box Office at (717) 534-3405, Monday through Friday, 10 am to 5 pm. Group sales: (717) 534-3415. Online: www.hersheytheatre.com. Located 15 East Caracas Avenue, downtown Hershey. HAIRSPRAY: www.hairsprayontour.com.

Music Review

Stallions DJ Barry Reflects on Music

Happy New Year to all my readers!

Last year's music might be hard to top with the likes of Mary J. Blige, Beyonce, Madonna, and Janet Jackson all hitting the charts. Along with music superstars came break out artists like The Pussycat Dolls, Rihanna, and Paris Hilton.

New Year

Our new year starts on a good note. Rolling in is Justin Timberlake, Nelly Furtado, and Christine Aguilera - all on the charts. Along with all of the main names and staples of music, we also have a few other artists merging into the mix.

Local Pride Favorite Pepper Mashay

"Lost Yo Mind" by Pepper Mashay currently climbs dance charts. This extra loud raspy vocalist has not had much success lately. You may remember her Queer As Folk song "Lets Get Soakin Wet". She returns with what I think the best single since "Wet". Once again you hear that familiar voice, but now telling you that you lost yo mind. The song is likeable and has a pounding tribal beat with Pepper's strong vocals standing out on top. This may be as close as she'll get to topping her old club anthem.

Bob Sinclair

Bob Sinclair had some success with dance singles last year and was maybe overlooked .

The new year brings us his song "Rock This Party". How can this not be a hit with Martha Wash singing "Everybody Dance Now" sampled into it? This is one of those songs that rocks the club. The song has a pulsing beat that flows and the vocals run smooth. This song is sure to get Sinclair noticed.

Fergalicious

What is a "Fergalicious"? Ask Fergie, the delicious or fergalicious lead singer from Black Eyed Peas. Having success with the group, Fergie goes solo with her first release "London Bridge". Accepted worldwide, the song was an instant radio hit. Now she pushes out the fun song "Fergalicious". Her crisp vocal with a repeating electronic beat rounds out this hip-hop song.

Solo or with the group, Fergie will be in the limelight for years to come.

Rihanna

Take a ride with Rihanna and her current song "We Ride". I think I would rather just walk.

This song is just too mellow and simple. After having radio and club hits like "S.O.S." and "Unfaithful", this current one I will say is just a let down. But wait, there's hope. Check out the Lenny B dance mix for a great upbeat club version for saving this sorry song.

Gwen Stefani

Gwen Stefani is back with a new look and sounding better then ever with her just released cd "The Great Escape". Gwen has no limits when it comes to vocals. She's had great success in hip hop, rock, and dance. "Wind It Up" is the current single scorching up the music charts of Billboard Magazine. This song once again stands out from the rest. Gwen takes you into hip-hop filled with Barbie doll vocals and robotic beats. This song will keep her on top until the next single is released.

Thanks for the positive comments and for reading my column. Readers make writing it worth while.

Central VOICE Hosts Talk Back

Open Stage Presents GLBT-themed "I Am My Own Wife"

Gay playwright Doug Wright was so fascinated with German transvestite, Charlotte von Mahlsdorf, that he spent 10 years of his life turning her story into his one-man play, I Am My Own Wife. Born Lothar Berfelde in 1928, von Mahlsdorf was already a celebrity when Wright met her in 1992.

Von Mahlsdorf was beloved by the people of Berlin, even though her history and character were far from spotless. She was known to have collaborated with the Stasi, the East German police. Still Berliners knew that at least half of their friends and neighbors had been guilty of the same crime – often done simply out of self-preservation – so they did not hold it against her.

While a teenager, von Mahlsdorf came to realize that she was a woman in a man's body and soon began dressing accordingly even though doing so put her life in jeopardy. She also began following Nazis as they looted the homes of wealthy Jews and carefully saved much of what they threw away, storing it in the basement of her home.

Von Mahlsdorf cut a wide swath in life, but Wright paints her portrait with uncommon economy. I Am My Own Wife is a play in which a single actor not only portrays von Mahlsdorf, but all the people with whom she comes in contact, and taking on over 30 different characters while dressed in black dress, headscarf and pearls is no mean feat for any actor.

I Am My Own Wife received an incredible 14 awards during it's off-Broadway and Broadway run including the 2004 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, the 2004 Tony Award for Best Play, the 2004 Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Play, the 2004 Lucille Lortel Award of Outstanding Solo Show, the 2004 Outer Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Broadway Play and the 2004 Drama League Award for Distinguished Production of a Play.

I Am My Own Wife opens at Open Stage of Harrisburg Feb.2 through Feb. 25, 8 p.m. Thurs. – Sat. and 2:30 p.m. Sun. Tickets: $25; $21 seniors & students. Call (717) 214 2787. Pay-What-You-Will Performances Feb. 8, 15, 22. Student/Senior-Rush tickets available 15 minutes before each performance with valid ID. Both types of tickets are subject to availability. Open Stage is located on the street level of the Walnut Street Garage in downtown Harrisburg. www.openstagehbg.com

Harrisburg Men's Chorus Sings "Let Music Live"

The (mostly gay) Harrisburg Men's Chorus is back and bigger and better than ever!

Under the direction of David Walker, HMC has grown to 28 butch and tenor voices. You'll have the chance to hear their winter concert "Let Music Live" Jan. 20, 8 pm and Jan. 21, 2 pm, Unitarian Church of Harrisburg, 1280 Clover Lane.

Although the venue is a house of worship, the music will include the irreverent, (maybe very irreverent), the schmaltzy, the down right humorous and the inspirational and it's all delivered with a glbt sensibility.

Planned are appearances by small ensembles and extraordinary soloists from within HMC's ranks. Big hits by legendary musicians including Billy Joel, Stephen Sondheim, Randall Thompson, The Chiffons and the Maguire Sisters will be performed.

Music by soon-to-be-legend Eric Lane Barnes will also be sung. Most of the singers wish Mr. Barnes (talented, handsome, gay, composer/lyricist) would be appearing in January - but he won't. Luckily, three of his most serious works: "Drama Queen", "For the Straight Guys" and "Gloria" will be performed for all to enjoy. ***Tickets: Tim, 433-0184 or David, 233-4353.***

EVENTS

DECEMBER-
December 31st - New Year's Eve Celebration
- Champagne Toast at Midnight!

JANUARY-
January 1st - New year's Day
- Pork & Sauerkraut - 5 PM.

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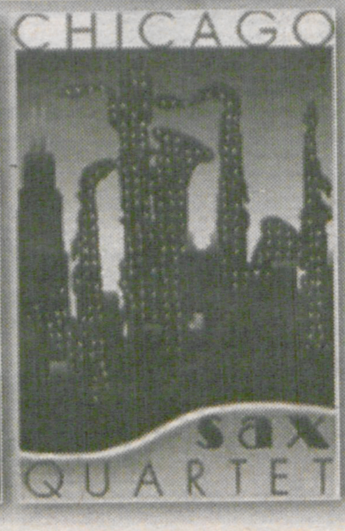

MICHAEL BURRITT PERCUSSION
Friday, January 19, 2007 at 8 PM

BLUE HIGHWAY
Saturday, January 20, 2007 at 8 PM

RHONDA VINCENT & THE RAGE
Saturday, February 3, 2007 at 8 PM

DECADES *featuring Pentagon, Pixie's Three & Class Act*
Saturday, February 10, 2007 at 8 PM

RIDERS RADIO THEATRE
Saturday, February 17, 2007 at 8 PM

ROUND-UP AT THE KIDS CORRAL
Sunday, February 18, 2007 at 3 PM

AN EVENING WITH GROUCHO MARX
Saturday, February 24, 2007 at 8 PM

MAN OF LA MANCHA
Thursday, March 1 - Sunday, March 4

THE GRASCALS
Saturday, March 10, 2007 at 8 PM

BJORN AGAIN - THE ABBA EXPERIENCE
Friday, March 23, 2007 at 8 PM

MICHAEL TWITTY
Sunday, March 25, 2007 at 3 PM

THE FABULOUS HUBCAPS
Sunday, April 1, 2007 at 3 PM

CHICAGO SAXOPHONE QUARTET
Saturday, April 14, 2007 at 8 PM

ANT & THE GRASSHOPPER
Sunday, April 22, 2007 at 2 PM

AMELIA EARHART
Sunday, April 22, 2007 at 3:30 PM

PETER PAN
Thursday, May 3 - Sunday, May 6, 2007

LEGENDS OF THE OPRY
Saturday, May 12, 2007 at 8 PM

ANNE OF GREEN GABLES
Saturday, May 19, 2007 at 8 PM

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News page

New Online Library Documents GLBT Human Rights Abuses

The International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, in collaboration with Asylum-Law.org. launch a new online library documenting examples of human rights abuses and violations based on sexual orientation, gender identity, or HIV status. The library, free to access, is a resource for political asylum seekers and their advocates to gather proof of abuses in their home country. "We get nearly 40 requests a week from people who call and need information to support their claims," said Dusty Aráujo, asylum documentation program coordinator at IGLHRC.

http://www.iglhrc.org/site/iglhrc/section.php?id=20

Insurance Aiding Wounded Soldiers

More than 600 soldiers so far have benefited from TSGLI, the new traumatic injury protection through the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance. Payments have ranged from $25,000 to $100,000 depending on the injury for soldiers who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. TSGLI provides monetary assistance to soldiers and their families who have suffered an injury resulting in a traumatic loss (i.e. loss of limbs, sight, hearing, traumatic brain injury, etc.). Additional information on the traumatic injury protection benefit, as well as a listing on qualifying injuries, can be obtained by visiting TSGLI or calling 1-800-237-1336.

FREE Tax Assistance for Low-Income

Harrisburg Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN) will provide free VITA tax assistance and will complete Federal and State tax returns, at no cost, for low-income community residents in 2007. For more information on these services, please call 233-0133.

York UPS Store Opens

The UPS Store has signed a long term lease at Cape Horn Square, YorkTownship, Red Lion, Pa. UPS plans on opening the end of November. Judy Pierce of High Associates, Ltd., of Harrisburg handled the lease arrangements.

New Job for '07? Be Honest

Employers are savvy to "good test takers" these days. For example, when potential employees take self assessments, they may misrepresent themselves – paint a better picture than the frame deserves.

Less effective queries:

- I am highly motivated to achieve outstanding results.
- I am more outgoing than shy.

More effective queries:

- When completing a task, I patiently follow a step-by-step process.
- I really enjoy being the center of attention.

Keep it real.

30 Below continued

Making the right choices is never easy. It takes resolve, sure. But it works best with a supportive environment and some mutual accountability. That's where 30Below comes in. We host fun group events where you can meet some new guys and form some new friendships. We're also about supporting and challenging one another to achieve our highest level of personal health and well-being.

Sure, you can take the easy way out. Keep going back to the same social scene. Don't ask or expect anything more from yourself or others. Snooze your way through life, half awake and half asleep. Let the good intentions pile up in your wake like those pizza boxes stacked next to the kitchen trash can.

But that's not really you, and deep down, you know it.

Sooner or later, your choices are going to add up.

Don't listen to the snooze button for a change. Wake up and smell the coffee.

It's a New Year. Check us out. You know you want to.

Check out the new AOL. Most comprehensive set of free safety and security tools, free access to millions of high-quality videos from across the web, free AOL Mail and more.

For more information on 30Below, contact us at 717-215-8437 or email thirtybelow@gmail.com.

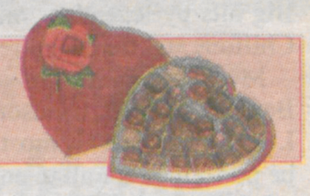
Guitar Hero Makes Us All Stars

Rock stars are doing it (not that). Now you can too with Guitar Hero, the new $70 PlayStation that let's those who can't play the guitar.

GH is now fixture on tour buses. Nine inch Nails' Trent Reznor wails on the game. Korn tour superstar Jonathan Davis enjoys the game too.

The game involves using a miniature plastic guitar to "play" along with songs associated with Jimi Hendrix, Boston, and the Ramones. Players press color-coded buttons on the neck of the guitar. Players can also "pluck" a tiny toggle, earning points each time a successful not is hit. Virtual crowd noises ramble through speakers when a good note is hit.

MTV Networks recently paid $175 million Harmonix Music Systems, Inc. a second version was recently released by Red Octane Inc.



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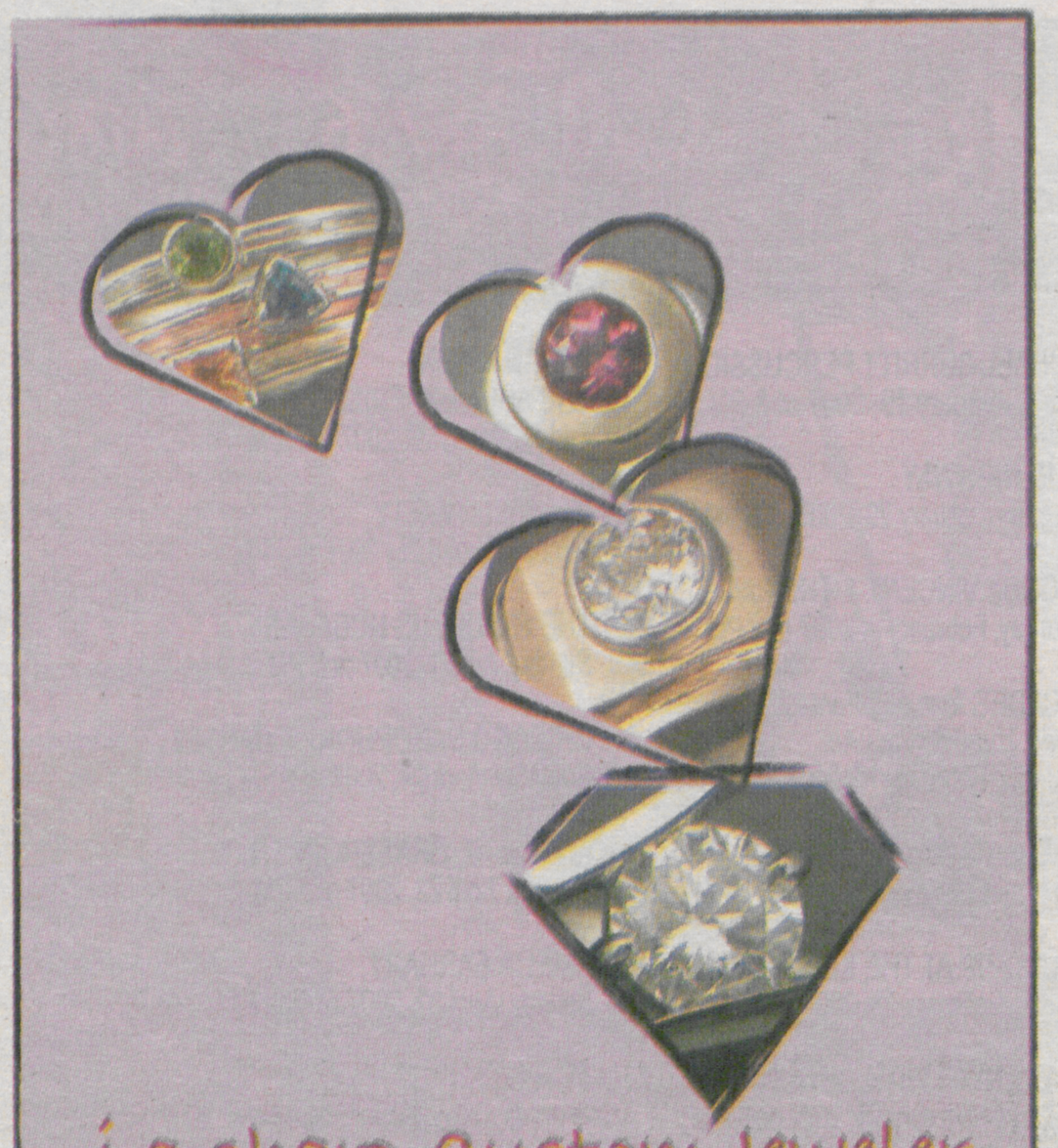

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Wholistic Health by Nightingale Health and Wellness Services

Quitting Smoking: Combining Strategies May Improve Success

By Andrew Crimmel, M.S., LAc, & Lorraine Bock, MSN, CRNP

As the New Year begins, we may be discouraged over the bad habits we hoped to address with our resolutions. Quitting smoking tops the list of healthy lifestyle changes people resolve to make each January.

Statistics show that smokers must try an average of eight to nine times before quitting successfully, and only about 15% of quitters do so without some sort of outside help. If you've found yourself having difficulty quitting these statistics confirm that you are not alone.

The good news is that there is a variety of help available to help you live smoke free.

The methods for quitting smoking are as varied as the individuals who smoke. Taking advantage of the right method for you is the best way to assure success this time. Nicotine replacement, prescription medications, homeopathy, acupuncture, massage, and hypnosis along with many other methods have all been used successfully to assist smokers with quitting.

Nicotine replacement methods include gum, lozenges, nasal sprays, inhalers, and skin patches. While most these methods are available over the counter, the inhaler and nasal spray require a prescription. It is important to be aware that smoking while using these products is especially dangerous and should avoided at all times. Your health care provider can recommend the method best suited for you, and assure you are using it safely and effectively.

Bupropion or Zyban® is a prescription medication that assists in curbing the nicotine cravings by affecting chemicals in the brain associated with the addiction. Side effects can include dry mouth, fatigue, dizziness, and constipation. People with certain medical conditions should not use this medication and use should be monitored by a licensed health professional. In studies, the combination of Zyban® with other methods of smoking cessation have achieved a success rate of almost 60%.

Homeopathy uses an assessment of the emotional, physical, and spiritual being to determine the correct remedy for assisting one in quitting smoking. Homeopathic remedies are highly individualized and success rates have not been studied, but anecdotal case studies report success in assisting smokers with quitting and staying smoke-free.

Acupuncture professionals have a specific program that has been shown to be effective in treating certain forms of addiction. The treatment is particularly good at helping to relieve initial withdrawal symptoms and cravings. Acupuncture is also helpful in promoting general stress-relief, which can contribute to the success of quitting by itself or in conjunction with more conventional approaches. Addressing general stress levels is very important in getting a handle on your smoking addiction and preventing a relapse.

Massage can also contribute to successful quitting by promoting overall stress reduction. It is no secret that many smokers relapse during times of high stress and anxiety. Massage can be an important stress management tool to help promote one's physical and mental well being during particularly stress-full periods.

Hypnosis has long been touted as a successful stop smoking technique. Hypnosis creates an altered state and uses the power of positive suggestion to help motive smokers to quit. It is important to find a certified and experienced hypnotist to ensure the highest possible chances of success.

Other tools for success in quitting smoking include aromatherapy, support groups, avoiding other smokers, and many, many more. Research has shown that a combination of the methods discussed increases your chances of quitting successfully. Your health care provider can assist you with choosing the method or combination of methods that is right for you. Our team of practitioners at Nightingale Health and Wellness Services are committed to working together to provide a supportive environment in which a treatment program tailored to your individual needs can help you finally realize your resolution to become a non-smoker and stay smoke-free for many New Years to come.

(bold ital) For a list of the reference articles used in preparing this article, contact Nightingale Health and Wellness Services, 717-920-9579, 2801 N. Front St., Harrisburg & 1422 Trindle Road, Carlisle.

New TMI Manager Never Fully Satisfied

By Lindsay Davis

In his first real test since taking over as Three Mile Island manager, Tom Dougherty faced a shutdown and one injured worker. No radiation was released during the incident. Eventually, investigators determined the shut-down was triggered by a faulty signal.

Tom Dougherty's mantra is to never be fully satisfied. That applies to his duties both as a family man and as the new plant manager at TMI.

Dougherty stepped into his new role last fall. He came from the Limerick Generating Station in Montgomery County, where he served as work management director. Exelon Corporation owns both Limerick and TMI.

"Having worked for another station in the company, I've gained a tremendous respect for TMI. This is a very neat experience," Dougherty said.

He worked at the Limerick plant for 20 years in several positions after six years with the Navy, where he worked with the nuclear aspect of submarines.

Dougherty is putting all of his experience to work as TMI's new plant manager.

In this role, he will manage the experts in charge of each of the plant's divisions.

"This plant has achieved some incredible things, but I don't want to become complacent," said Dougherty. He aims to keep the employees at TMI on their toes by pushing them to improve safety and security.

Dougherty said those areas are already at high levels. He said the plant employees make up a "culture of safety, where everyone is looking out for their peers."

He proudly said TMI is the lowest dose plant in the United States, meaning that it puts off the lowest dose of radiation to its employees. He also cited that the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations rated the plant as a level two of five potential levels. In keeping with his mantra, he hopes to go one better.

"Everything I've seen so far indicates that we have the potential to be rated as a level one. The folks here definitely deserve it," Dougherty said.

Tom Dougherty is new plant manager at Three Mile Island.

Laser Tag Safety Drills

TMI security personnel are playing a very sophisticated game of laser tag. During force-on-force drills, the officers are using state-of-the-art equipment for target practice. They are training to be able to repel an adversarial force if one should ever encroach on the island.

"When they shoot their guns, it sounds like a real weapon firing," said Ralph DeSantis, TMI spokesman.

Officers use Miles equipment, originally designed for and used by the military. DeSantis compared the equipment to that of a more complicated version of laser tag. "Their guns shoot lasers and when an officer is hit, a sensor goes off on his equipment," said DeSantis.

DeSantis said the plant conducts drills like this a few times a year, much more frequently than required by the NRC. This is only one of several security changes the plant made after 9/11. So far, the plant has spent $12 million on security improvements since that day. They expect to spend another $2-3 million for 2006.

"Security is an ongoing project here. We're always making changes," DeSantis said.

Citizens Bank

Citizens Bank Names Patricia Bosma Senior VP

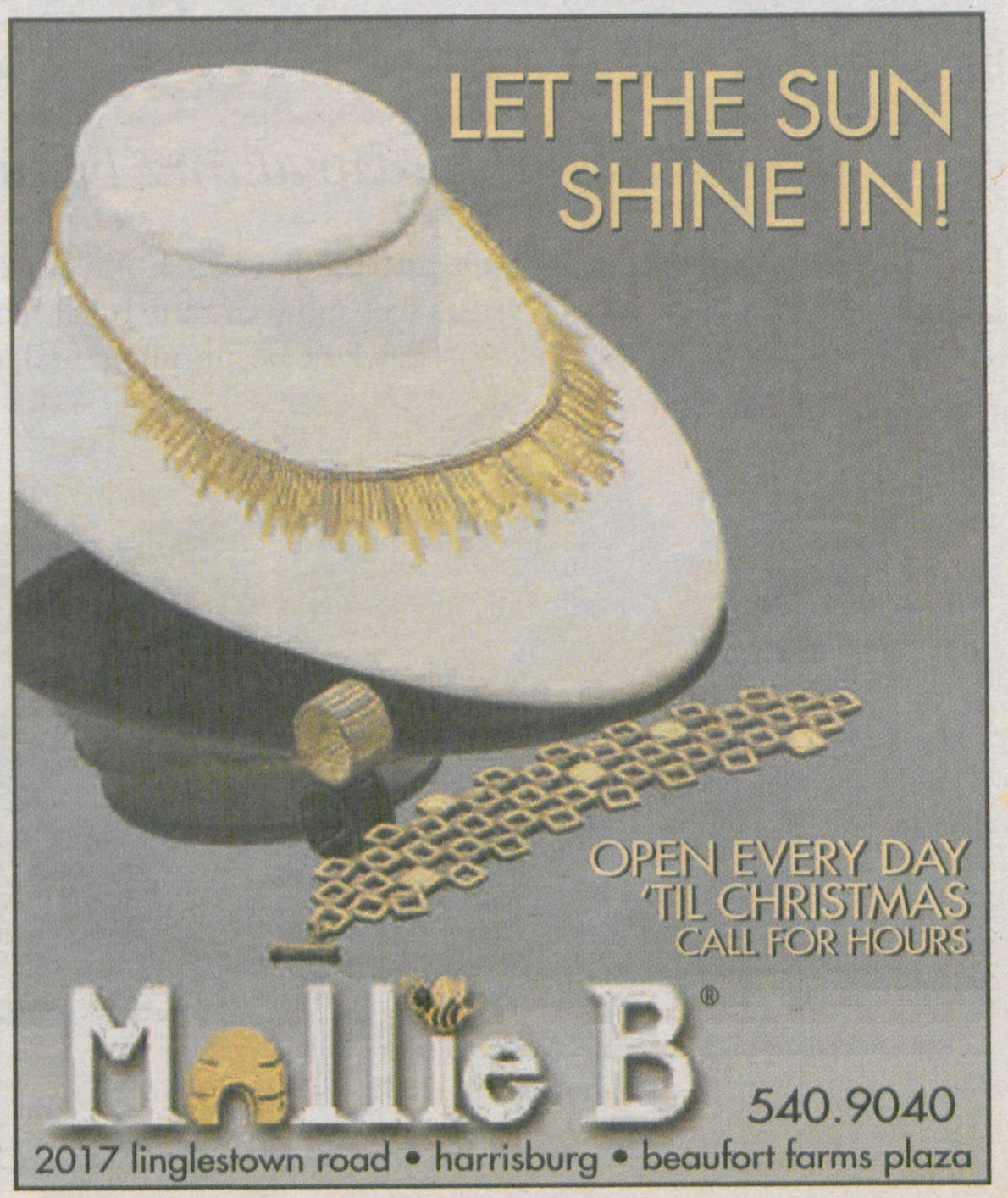
Citizens Bank of Pennsylvania recently announced appointment of Patricia Bosma to Senior Vice President and Regional Manager of Business Banking. Bosma is responsible for all business banking initiatives and personnel in Harrisburg, York, Lancaster, and Reading.

Bosma previously worked at Wachovia Bank for the past 10 years as senior vice president in the Commercial Banking Group where she oversaw and coordinated activities of partners in wealth management, treasury and retail services, credit, leasing, and capital markets.

"We are delighted to have Pat join the team in central Pennsylvania," said Ralph J. Papa, Citizens Bank of Pennsylvania president. "She brings to Citizens more than 25 years of banking experience which will be extremely beneficial to our colleagues and customers in the Capitol Region."

Bosma serves on the foundation board of Harrisburg Area Community College and is an active member of the Greater Harrisburg Area, West Shore, and Carlisle Chambers of Commerce. Pat and husband Gene live in the Harrisburg area.

Citizens Bank of Pennsylvania is a $36 billion state-chartered bank with dual headquarters in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia. It has approximately 400 branches, more than 675 ATMs throughout Pennsylvania. Contact: citizensbank.com.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PennFuture Praises Legislature for Leaving Clean Cars Program Intact

By John Hanger
President & CEO PennFuture.

Unprecedented Public Outpouring of Support Transforms PA from

Rust Belt to Clean Belt State

Citizens for Pennsylvania's Future (PennFuture) praised Pennsylvania citizens, Governor Edward Rendell, PA Dept. of Environmental Protection Secretary Kathleen McGinty and the Pennsylvania General Assembly for transforming the state from a rust belt state to the "clean and green belt state." Upon adjournment late in November 2006, the legislature recessed with leaving both the Clean Vehicles Program and the proposed regulation to cut toxic mercury from power plants intact and ready to become law.

"We have smashed the stereotype of Pennsylvania as a polluted land, and we're now the new, green and clean Pennsylvania," said John Hanger, president and CEO of PennFuture.

"Together, the Clean Vehicles Program and the mercury rule are great news for both Pennsylvania's environment and economy. These new policies will make us better able to compete in the 21st Century economy, create jobs, combat global warming and transform our environment, throwing off the shackles of pollution. This is a great, green day for our state.

"Pennsylvania is leading the nation in green policies," continued Hanger.

Hanger cites the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard Act, which requires Pennsylvania electricity suppliers to provide an ever increasing amount of electricity made from clean and renewable sources; passage of the historic Growing Greener Bond, overwhelmingly approved by the voters, which provides $650 million for environmental cleanup and protection; and creation of sustainable development funds and acquisition of funding for energy efficiency and renewable energy through Energy Harvest Grants and the Pennsylvania Energy Development Authority as examples of the state's moving in the right direction.

PennFUTURE
Every environmental victory grows the economy

The Clean Vehicles Program allows residents to purchase the most technologically advanced, fuel-efficient and cleanest cars, striking a blow against our addiction to foreign oil from Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela. The program also protects the state's jobs, since federal law requires the Commonwealth to cut air pollution.

The mercury rule will require a 90 percent reduction in toxic mercury pollution from power plants, which threatens the health of women and their babies. More than 600,000 women of childbearing age nationwide have amounts of mercury in their blood over the level set as safe by the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Academy of Sciences. Unsafe levels of mercury in mothers' blood and breast milk can interfere with the proper development of babies' brains and neurological systems.

The genesis of the Pennsylvania mercury rule was in August 2004, when PennFuture formally filed a petition with the Pennsylvania Environmental Quality Board (EQB) on behalf of 10 public health, sporting, women's rights and environmental and conservation organizations, asking the EQB to enact a regulation requiring coal-fired power plants to reduce their mercury emissions by 90 percent. A long stakeholder and public comment process (which resulted in a record number of positive comments for the rule) moved the rule forward. Today over 100 organizations, including the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, the Pennsylvania State Nurses Association, the Pennsylvania Parent Teachers Association, the Learning Disabilities Association and the Pennsylvania Council of Churches, have joined in this vital effort.

PennFuture: www.pennfuture.org

How Bad Are PA Roads?

By Citizens for Pennsylvania's Future

The Pennsylvania Transportation Funding and Reform Commission recently released a report that paints a bleak picture of the state's deteriorating and financially strapped transportation systems.

Public transit systems are bankrupt, piling up operating deficits, and deferring maintenance and capital improvements and cutting services, the report says.

Roads and bridges aren't in any better shape.

Pennsylvania has 21,000 miles of secondary roads, and 35% are rated as poor.

More than half of our bridges are at least 40 years old, and 23% are structurally deficient. In fact a few bridges have recently collapsed.

Uncontrolled sprawl is creating the need for more roads and adding to maddening traffic congestion.

The price tag to address public transit, highway and bridge deficiencies is $2.3 billion. That price tag does not include the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission's plan to build another 26 Turnpike miles from the Mon Valley into Pittsburgh for $5.4 billion. The new 26 miles would be a "toll road" known as the Mon-Fayette Toll Road.

A report by planning firm Glatting, Jackson, Kercher, Anglin, Lopez, Rinehart, Inc. during the federally required Environmental Impact Statement process shows that the toll road:

- will not attract industrial development;
- will discourage the location of white collar and community-serving jobs in the region;
- will shift economic development from within Pittsburgh and the Mon Valley to other areas, rather than result in a net increase in economic development and
- will increase, not relieve, traffic congestion as the road encourages shifts in population to areas outside of Pittsburgh and the Mon Valley.

Citizens for Pennsylvania's Future think that for less than half the cost of the Mon-Fayette, the state could make progress in addressing transportation needs. If funds go to toll road project, they project, money won't be available for other projects like York County I-83 interchange improvements, Harrisburg area congestion management projects, widening U.S. Route 22 in Lehigh Valley, safety improvements on Routes 11/15 near Selinsgrove in Snyder County, the Dubois-Jefferson County Airport Access Road, and improvements to the U.S. Route. 30 Corridor in Gettysburg.

YOUR THOUGHTS? Email your thoughts to posops@aol.com.

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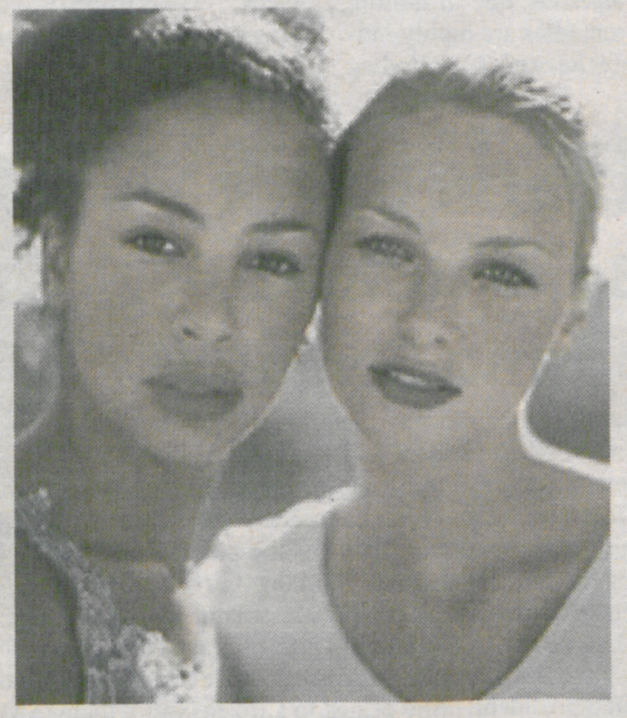

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Garfield's Restaurant & Pub Helps

"Cover All Kids" Health Care Passes;$216,000 for at Risk Kids

Family values not based on one group hating another finally triumphed in the waning days of the last year's legislative session.

Urged on by Gov. Ed Rendell, State Rep. Mike Sturla, D-Lancaster, championed a bill through the general assembly that expands health insurance to 133,000 uninsured children. "With the passage of this legislation, Pennsylvania will truly Cover All Kids and guarantee affordable, comprehensive health-care coverage for all children in the Commonwealth," Sturla said.

Signed by Rendell Nov. 22, the measure loosens income limits for the CHIP (Children's Health Insurance Program) Program, thereby removing 15,000 kids from the state's uninsured rolls. Beginning Jan. 1, families with income of $40-$50,000 pay $36 per child, families earning up to $55,000 pay $50 per child; and families earning up to $60,000 pay $57 per child. Families earning less than $40,000 will receive free coverage.

Children of incarcerated parents are extended a helping hand by a recent $216,000 grant to Big Brothers Big Sister of the Capital Region. Nearly 2 million US children have an incarcerated parent.

Congressman Tim Holden presented the group with $216,000 in US Department of Health and Human Services funds. The funds will be used to train adult volunteers to mentor children and youth whose parents are incarcerated.

The grant will support a mentoring partnership between Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Capital Region and The Program for Female Offenders, known as The Program. Both organizations will "match" children with an adult mentor who will provide support services.

Typically, mentors will encourage everyday activities and explore careers, money management, cooking, and personal hygiene. By their interaction, mentors will also reinforce the value of community service.

$216,000 Big Brothers, Big Sisters – L to R, Tammy Johnson, Children's Program Director of The Program, **Valerie Simmons**, CEO The Program, **Susan Hair** VP Programming BBBSCR, **Larry Gardner**, President/CEO, Big Brothers, Big Sisters of the Capital Region, and **Congressman Tim Holden**.

Garfield's Restaurant & Pub Helps

Harrisburg's newest restaurant, Garfield's Restaurant and Pub located in Capital City Mall recently turned over all opening day profits to Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Capital Region.

"We were thrilled to celebrate Garfield's grand opening, eat great food and raise some additional funds. It gives us the chance to reach a broader audience with the Big Brothers Big Sisters mission of helping children reach their potential through professionally supported one-to-one mentoring relationships", said Jill Troutman, spokesperson for Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Capital Region.

Garfield's Restaurant and Pub, a casual, family-oriented establishment is coming to Capital City Mall. The restaurant is conveniently located at the northwest main mall entrance between Sears and Hecht's and will seat 202 guests.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Capital Region has been the area's leader in one-to-one youth mentoring since 1981 and currently serves nearly 1,100 at risk youth throughout Dauphin, Cumberland, Lebanon, Perry and Franklin counties.

"Garfield's shares our passion for caring about children. By partnering with us they are playing a larger role in our collective drive to create brighter futures and stronger communities for all," Troutman commented.

nificant. They provide employment for nearly 5% of the state's private-sector workforce.

In Pennsylvania, US subsidiaries support 81,300 manufacturing jobs. Manufacturing companies tend to have a strong "multiplier" effect on the economy - stimulating a substantial amount of activity and jobs in other sectors through their demand for inputs from other suppliers. In all, 36% of jobs at these "insourcing US subsidiaries" are in manufacturing industries. Nationwide, US subsidiaries' share of US manufacturing employment represents is 12% of all American manufacturing jobs.

Nationally, US subsidiaries employ 5.1 million Americans, an increase of 52,100 jobs over five years representing an annual payroll of $325 billion. Average compensation per a US worker of a foreign US subsidiary is $63,428. That's 32% higher than compensation at all US companies.

US subsidiaries reinvested a record annual high of $59 billion of their US profits back into their American operations.

Marietta Local Example

Last year, GlaxoSmithKline, a US subsidiary of a UK-based pharmaceutical company, expanded its ability to increase vaccines supplies for Americas by acquiring a vaccine research and production facility in Marietta, Lancaster County.

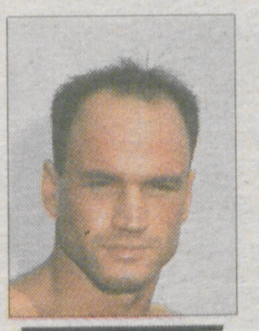
The 90-acre research and manufacturing site in Marietta will be used to help develop the next generation of vaccines for GSK. The site also will focus on the development and production of cell culture technology that will be used for seasonal and pandemic flu vaccines.

GSK expects to use the Marietta site for the secondary production of several new vaccines for distribution in the US market, following their approval by the FDA. GSK expects to employ 270 people at the Marietta site.

Joseph Hair Loss Clinic

Your choices among surgery and conventional hair replacement have been increased by one

Somewhere between surgical procedures and conventional non-surgical hair replacement, there's Folligraft.



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Monday- Industry Mondays, food service personnel drink for 1/2 price 9pm-11pm, Open 4pm-2am, Green Apple Martini's $5.00

Tuesday- Spoiled Rotten Tuesdays w/ DJ David Petrilla 18+ to enter 21+ to drink 10pm $5 cover, Bud Bottles $2.00

Wednesday- Happy Hour 5-7pm, Our Famous Karaoke w/ Carmel 10pm-1am Absolut/Red Bull $4.50

Thursday- L Thursdays w/ Sabrina, X-Rated specials, Half Price Happy Hour 5-7pm

Friday- Nights have Evolved w/ Resident DJ Stephen Durkin, Spinning your favorite Sexy progressive Beats from 9pm-2am. $5.00 cover, Captain and Coke $3.50, XS Follies the 4th Friday of the month

Saturday- Sizzling Saturdays w/ Resident DJ Jazzy Joyce 9pm-2am, Long Islands $5.00

Sunday- Tea Dance Party's 5pm-9pm & Karaoke w/ Todd from 10pm-1am, Select Draft on special

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Philly Fun Ongoing January-February 2007

Trivia Queen 20
Through Friday, January 12, 2007
Pure

LGBT Bowling Night
Through Saturday, January 13, 2007
Strikes Bowling Lounge

25 x 25, Curated by Matthew Higgs and Amie Scally
Friday, November 17 through Wednesday, January 17, 2007
Cerealart

Prince Pride Night
Friday, November 3 through Friday, June 8, 2007
Prince Music Theatre

Dance Classes
Through Saturday, June 30, 2007
Tapography Dance Studio

Drag at Bob & Barbara's
Through Saturday, January 12, 2008
Bob & Barbara's

Doubletree Hotel Phila: LGBTI Health Summit 2007

"Beyond Boundaries: A Blueprint for LGBTI Healthcare Equality"
March 14 - 18, 2007 - Philadelphia, PA

The 3rd National Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex Health Summit convenes in Philadelphia March 14-18.

The summit brings together more than five hundred health care professionals, academics, activists, community members, and their allies to share cutting-edge information and develop strategies to better serve the health and wellness of the nation's LGBTI communities.

This year's theme, "Beyond Boundaries: A Blueprint for LGBTI Healthcare Equality," is a call to all LGBTI communities across the country to come together to develop a long-term strategic plan for LGBTI health and wellness.

The summit's leadership team includes key figures from national LGBTI advocacy groups; local LGBTI health centers such as summit host Mazzoni Center; the City of Philadelphia; researchers and educators from institutes and universities, such as summit co-host Drexel University's School of Public Health; health care practitioners, and more.

Philadelphia, the City of Brotherly Love and Sisterly Affection, will prove a fitting venue as the collective "family" gathers for this important work. For five days, the Doubletree Hotel, nestled in the heart of Philly's arts and culture center, will be the breeding ground for new ideas and new resolve to build a stronger, healthier and more vibrant community.

Philly Visitors Meet Your Future: Joey Sweeney & Philebrity Blog

Move over Rocky statue. Hipsters like by Joey Sweeney are taking over.

Sweeney publishes Philebrity several times weekly. It's a weblog media filter and gossip tip sheet for the Philadelphia area, of special interest to visitors. Dan P. Lee wrote about the phenomena knoiwn as Sweeney and his blog in a recent Philadelphia magazine.

The 33-year-old Sweeney's pad is in NoLibs or Northern Liberties section. He is co-founder and editor of Philebrity.com, the city's hippest blog covering arts, gossip and media scenes. It is thought to be read, as Lee points out, by Important People. Read: 18-to-35-year-olds, the fastest growing and most financially carefree demographic in the New Cool Philly.

Sweeney became well-known around the city during a seven-year stint as a writer, columnist and editor with the Philadelphia Weekly. His work earned him several awards, including top honors for music criticism from the Association of Alternative Newsweeklies. Check out his latest rage on Philebrity.com.

Also check: http://www.gophila.com/Phila/EventsCalendar/

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SPECIAL EVENTS

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April 30th – May 6th

***Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs* Exhibition**
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February 3rd – September 30th

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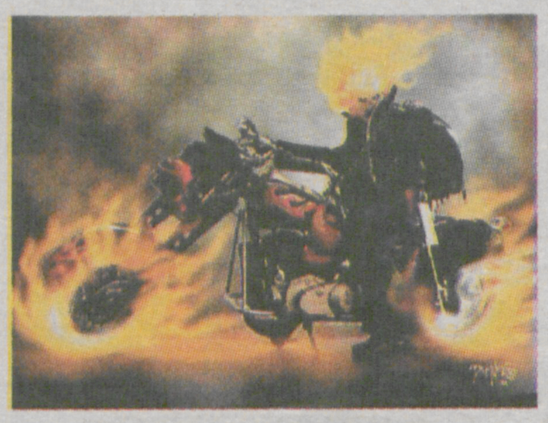
Ghost Rider

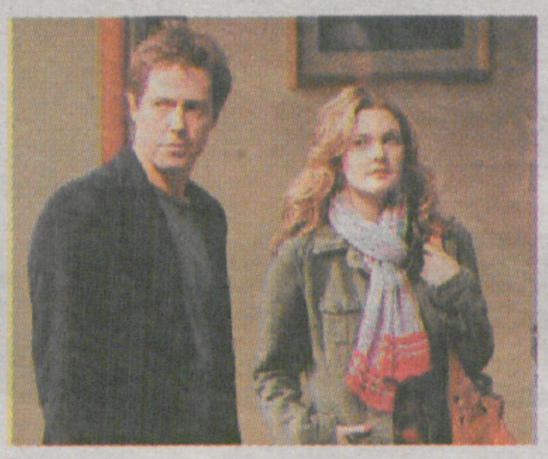
Rated: PG-13, Directed by Mark Steven Johnson, Starring Nicolas Cage & Eva Mendes



In this action thriller, a motorcycle stunt man based on the Marvel character, Johnny Blaze (Nicolas Cage), makes a deal with an evil creature, Mephistopheles, to become immortal, or unable to die. As a consequence, Johnny must ride every night as the Ghost Rider to the supernatural world. Then, when Johnny meets Blackheart, the son of the Devil himself, all Hell lets lose as the two have a once in a lifetime match up.

Music And Lyrics By

Rated: N/A, Directed by Marc Lawrence, Starring Drew Barrymore & Hugh Grant



In this romantic comedy, a pop star that has long since been forgotten about, Alex Fletcher (Hugh Grant), gets another chance at fame when a beautiful singer requests to sing a duet with him. The only problem is that Alex has to write the song. Of course, he's extremely distraught seeing as how he's never written lyrics in his life, until he meets a younger woman, (Drew Barrymore) who has a talent with words.

Blood and Chocolate

Rated: N/A, Directed by Katja von Garnier, Starring Agnes Burchner & Hugh Dancy

An epic drama, with a hint of a forbidden teenage love, gives off a semi-gloomy feel but looks as though it will keep you wanting more. Vivian (Agnes Burchner) is a werewolf who meets Aiden (Hugh Dancy) and they are immediately attracted to each other. But, as time goes on, Vivian must decide whether to chose between the man she longs for or what is meant to be.

The Number 23

Rated: N/A, Directed by Joel Schumacher, Starring Jim Carrey, Virginia Madsen, Logan Lerman, & Danny Huston

In this horror mystery, a young man, Walter Sparrow (Jim Carrey) discovers a book that seems to be based on his life. But, to Walter's horror, the book ends in a tragic murder that has yet to happen in reality. Walter becomes obsessed with the book, trying to find ways to link it to his life, and to save himself.

Bride To Terabithia

Rated: N/.A, Directed by Gabor Csupo, Starring Josh Hutchenson & Anna Sophia Robb

In this family friendly fantasy, based on the novel The Bridge To Terabithia by Katherine Paterson, two kids, Jesse Aaron (Josh Hutchenson) and Leslie Burke (Anna Sophia Robb) meet and become close friends. Then, one day when they are walking through the woods near their houses they discover a clearing across a bridge. There, they create their own world that they name Terabithia.

For all Cinema Center locations and show times:
www.cinemacenter.com

Laboratory Testing Business Expands

By Pete Strella

A Londonderry Twp. environmental testing lab has been named one of the top 50 fastest growing businesses in central Pennsylvania.

Analytical Laboratory Services, Inc. (ALSI) has seen revenues grow 53 percent in three years. That number landed the company at No. 39 on the Central Penn Business Journal's list of the fastest growing companies.

"To make the list was great," said ALSI President Michael Farlling. "To be named No. 39 was even better."

ALSI tests water, air, soil and other matter for environmental contamination. Clients include all levels of government, homeowners, restaurants and other businesses with water discharge permits.

"We're the ounce of prevention instead of the pound of cure," Farlling says. "We test for any environmental contaminant that you wouldn't want in your food or that you wouldn't want to drink."

For example, ALSI tests private wells for bacteria before homes are sold. The tests are required by law, Farlling says.

Farlling credits the businesses recent growth to less competition. Some local labs have closed after their results were determined not to be credible. At the same time, high overhead costs to start labs such as ALSI often keep investors away.

"Almost every piece of instrumentation has a six-figure price tag," Farlling says.

Another expense is the robotics equipment labs use to eliminate human error for some tests.

"When you're measuring parts per billion, that's about equal to one drop of water in an Olympic-size swimming pool," Farlling says.

ALSI shows no signs of slowing down. A 10,000-square-foot addition to its existing building should be finished by January, Farlling said.

Once completed, ALSI's 26,000 square-foot building will include more lab space and updated administrative offices.

As with all businesses, challenges remain for ALSI. The company loses one day's worth of work –or $30,000 – each time the electricity goes out, which Farlling says has happened a lot lately. Each time the lab loses electricity, employees spend the day resetting equipment and lab temperatures.

ALSI employs 130 full-time workers, operates 24 hours a day and has a satellite lab in York.

The company has been independently operated since 1991. The company was founded in 1979 as part of Skelly and Loy, Inc., an engineering and consulting firm. ALSI moved to its current location on Dogwood Lane, just off Schoolhouse Road, in 1998 after merging with R.E. Wright Laboratory.

Women's History Month Event March 11-18

Region's Dress for Success Helps Women

"We're here to help 'job ready' women about to have an interview," says Ruth Koup, Founder, Chief Executive Officer of Dress for Success South Central PA.

"Dress for Success South Central PA is a non-profit organization offering services to help our clients enter the workforce and maintain employment," Koup says.

The organization's mission promotes economic independence of disadvantaged women by providing professional attire, a network of support and the career development tools to help women thrive in work and in life.

Women are referred to the program by partner organizations that are non-profit programs and government agencies, including homeless shelters, immigration services, and domestic violence shelters that offer job training programs.

Each Dress for Success client receives one suit (and available accessory items) when she secures a job interview and a week's worth of "separates" when she gets the job.

Additionally, participating women may also enroll in job retention programs, mentoring and an ongoing support network, "which makes our organization a unique community service that works hand-in-hand with established job training programs," Koup points out.

Dress for Success is a volunteer-driven organization and depends on the support of the community to help women seeking self sufficiency. There are more than 3,000 Dress for Success volunteers worldwide.

Board of directors are Camille Kostelac-Cherry, Esq., President; Kimberly Walker, M.D., Vice President; Barbara Bradshaw, Secretary; Molly Jacobson, Treasurer; Kathy Wildauer, Corporate Donation Chairman; Kimberly Feeman.

Contact: 3820 Walnut Street, Suite 2, Harrisburg, PA 17109, 717-657-3333; Email southcentralpa@dressforsuccess.org.

SPECIAL EVENT: March 11-18 is S.O.S. Week

Send One Suit Week

Each March Dress for Success sends an urgent S.O.S. to women nationwide: Donate one new or nearly new interview suit and help a low-income woman enter the workforce.

A donation of just one suit can empower a disadvantaged woman to start a new life of self-sufficiency and success. S.O.S. - Send One Suit – Week, which coincides with Women's History Month, features promotions and events to raise awareness and funds for Dress for Success affiliates around the globe. This campaign is one more way that both individuals and corporations directly change our clients' lives.

All interview appropriate clothing including:

- **Suits: Skirt or pant (conservative and updated)**
- **Blouses: Conservative**
- **Shoes: Dress, Dark (black, brown, navy, taupe)**
- **Handbags: Dark (black, brown, navy)**
- **Skirts and Pants separates: Solid, dark colors (no patterns)**
- **Suit Jackets: Dark Colors (no patterns)**
- **Scarves**
- **(New in package) Pantyhose only in black, coffee, nude, navy (no white or bold colors)**

Frequently asked questions

Preparing for your family and pet portrait session

by Charles Smith, Photographer

Frequently asked questions

Preparing for your family and pet portrait session

Can our portraits be taken outside or at home?
Yes, my pet photo sessions are done on location. Pets are more relaxed in their home than in a studio environment, and we take as much time as we need to capture the shots that you will love.

What kind of clothes should we wear?
Many families enjoy the simple look of jeans or khakis with COORDINATED COLORED SHIRTS - for a casual and unified look. That means the tops are in the same color family, but might have different patterns and styles. Here are some examples:

Clothing Guidelines

1. Select form-fitting (not loose), classical styled clothes
2. Wear a different color than the color of your pet
3. Avoid wearing white tops, or black tops
4. Clothing should not have any visible logos or writing

In many cases, your legs and feet will be showing, so remember light socks with light shoes, and dark socks with dark shoes. Or, if you like the fun look of bare feet - like I do - you may want to get a pedicure done before your session and plan to go barefoot.

Pet Color	Shirt Color Suggestions
red, gold, yellow, tan	blue, deep purple, turquoise, green
black & white	red, dark orange, dark pink, burgundy
white	eggplant, jewel tones
black	royal blue, orange, lime green
grey	yellow, orange, purple, light teal

Which backdrops will I use?
When photographing pets, I prefer using neutral backgrounds such as grey, tan or white because they compliment nearly everything, and keep the visual focus on your pet.

What about makeup and accessories for people?
Women should wear a matte finish base or powder spread evenly on the face to help reduce shine, as well as lipstick and eye makeup. Children should wear clear lip balm. Please also bring a hair brush and hair accessories. Men will look best with either a clean-shaven face, or a neatly-trimmed mustache, beard, or gotee. Jewelry, if worn, should be simple. I will ask you to remove watches before being photographed.

Will our hands show?
Your portraits will involve a number of poses and angles, and your hands will likely be included. Many people prefer to get a manicure before the portrait session.

What about bringing clothes or toys and props?
You are welcome to bring one change of clothes for the family, and highly encouraged to bring any favorite beds, toys, outfits, chew bones, and accessories for your pets. If your children have a favorite stuffed animal, doll or toy they like to hold and hug, bring it along! For older children and teens, they may like to bring a favorite musical instrument or sports equipment item to help their personality shine through.

Will my photos look like the samples?
The success of your pet portrait session is dependent on your relationship with your pet. While not a requirement, if your pet has the ability to reliably display basic obedience such as "sit", "down" and "stay" - it allows us to become more creative - and spend more time having fun! Training your pets is an extremely worthwhile investment in time, and increases your bond with each other.

How should I prepare my pet for being photographed?
Pets with fur should be brushed before our session. Eyes, teeth and ears should be checked and cleaned. NAILS SHOULD BE TRIMMED AND FILED.

Should I schedule pet grooming before the session?
Grooming is recommended if it is done at least one day prior to their photo session. Professional grooming typically requires pets to spend a few hours of waiting and standing while being shaved and trimmed, and may also involve a blow dry. It's a long day and they come home tired. Your pets will be more alert and awake for their photo session if they haven't just come from the grooming appointment. If you need a referral for a groomer, give me a call.

What's a pet portrait session like?
A pet portrait session is a highly participatory event. You and your pets will always be together during your session, and they will be looking to you for guidance and motivation. The more fun you have during this interaction with your pet, the more THEY will enjoy their time in the spotlight. The overall experience is fun and casual. We'll take lots of hug and treat breaks to keep your pets happy and motivated.

What should I do to prepare a high-energy pet?
I suggest you provide your pet a moderate amount of exercise ending about one to two hours before the session start time.

Are there any situations where I should not photograph my pet?
If you have a pet that is ill with coughing, vomiting, or diarrhea or there appears to be a discharge around the eyes or nose, your pet should not be photographed. Please contact me to reschedule your session date for another time when your pet is healthy. An unspayed female in heat, or dogs known to 'mark' indoors is also discouraged.

What do I need to bring with me?
Please bring a baggie full of some extra-special treats, pre-cut in very little pieces as rewards for a job well-done!

- By "very little" I mean that a single turkey hot dog can be precut lengthwise down the middle, and then each half cut lengthwise, and then into quarters to make about 30-40 little treats.
- By "very special" I mean that the treats you bring to the portrait session should be something your pets do not normally get at home, or get only on special occasions. Something better. Something special.
- PLEASE BRING SOFT TREATS rather than crunchy biscuits, which make your pet thirsty and take time to chew.

Examples of recommended treats for dogs include; cut up turkey hot dogs or deli meats, small pieces of string cheese, precooked small pieces of chicken meat, and Simon & Huey Soft Training Bites.

Families with multiple pets should also bring an additional family member or friend that your pets are familiar with as an extra pair of helping hands.

Will my pet be afraid of the flashing strobes?
I don't know your pets – but I've photographed hundreds of pets and the majority of animals do not show any signs of stress from the momentary flashing of lights. They're usually pretty excited about being the center of attention, and eager to pose for yummy treats! For those pets that seem a little more unsure, we take our time to help introduce them to the studio and reward them as their confidence increases.

How many pictures will you take during a session?
While each session is unique, it's not uncommon for me to take between 50 and 100 pictures during each sitting. I like to provide my clients with a wide variety from which to choose their final prints. At the very minimum, I will take photos of the pets individually, the people individually and together, and the pets and their families as a group.

How much are additional prints?
Request for price lists.

What if we want black and white prints?
All sessions are digitally captured. This allows you to see all of your gallery images in color first, and then you can decide if you would like to receive your prints as color, black and white or duotone.

What types of photo gifts can I buy for friends and family?
I offer a wide selection or prints, enlargements, mounted prints which may be displayed on an easel, gallery wrapped canvas prints and custom photo greeting cards.

How do we select our favorite images?
Your session images will be posted to a web-based image gallery, usually within five days after your session. I'll email you the password, and you are welcome to share it with your family and friends as you review your favorites and make your print selections.

Can we upgrade our session package after our session?
Yes. After seeing session images in the online gallery, many clients decide that they would like more prints than the number provided in the original session package. You may also purchase additional prints, enlargements and fine art prints individually.

How does payment work?
50% of your session package fee is due at the time of your session.
The remainder is payable upon pickup of your completed session package. Payment is accepted to CS Photography as checks, money order or cash. We do not accept credit cards.

When will we get our finished prints?
Your finished print package will be ready for pickup approximately 3-4 weeks after you submit your order to me. Delivery of your session package and photo gifts via UPS is available for an extra fee.

Can we order more prints at any time in the future? Even six months from now?
YES! Simply contact me and request that your image gallery become re-activated, so that you may review your photos to place additional orders.

Do you guarantee your clients' satisfaction?
Yes. All studio portrait sessions are backed with my personal guarantee; if you don't love your portraits, you pay nothing and I keep the images. To date, I've never had anyone take me up on this.

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St. Moritz Jazz Club Launches Santiago's CD

"The Next Level," a new CD by the talented Amaryllis Santiago is now available. After a hot launch party at the legendary St. Moritz Jazz & Supper Club, Santiago is out there again pleasing audiences with her one-of-a-kind stage presence.

The evening also benefited the Firm Foundation of PA and AIDS Community Alliance. Besides nonperishable food items for both organizations' clients, Santiago donated a portion of her profits that night from sale of her CD.

Contact: www.StMorritzClub.com (717-232-9949) and santiagoamaryllis@yahoo.com (717-380-1063)

Loving Annabelle

Available from WolfeVideo.com

One Student, One Teacher, One Secret

Rising heart-throb Erin Kelly stars as Annabelle, a precocious Senator's daughter who falls in love with her teacher Simone (gorgeous Diane Gaidry) at a stodgy Catholic girls boarding school. Inspired by the classic lesbian drama Maedchen in Uniform, out writer-director Katherine Brooks unveils this passionate tale of forbidden love with intelligence, wit and sensitivity.

Simone Bradley is Saint Theresa's prized young poetry teacher who finds peace and security within the boarding school walls. Surrounded by a lush atmosphere with little conflict, Simone has settled into a life of comfort and purpose educating her young female students.

Annabelle is a charismatic and enchanting new student who quickly draws attention for her rebellious behavior. Fearing Annabelle will influence the other students, rigid Headmistress (Ilene Graff), instructs Simone to keep an eye on Annabelle and get her under control.

Simone, however, quickly learns that the real challenge is not Annabelle's behavior but the attraction budding between the two. As Annabelle pursues her teacher, she unleashes the passion that has been locked deep inside Simone, who must decide whether or not to enter an affair that could cost her everything.

Inspired by the 1931 German classic, MAEDCHEN IN UNIFORM, director Katharine Brooks's LOVING ANNABELLE gives a modern telling of this "forbidden love" story that continues to be controversial to this day.

With stunning cinematography by Cynthia Pusheck, LOVING ANNABELLE offers excellent performances from its female leads, Diane Gaidry and Erin Kelly, as well as a featured performance by Academy Award nominee/Golden Globe recipient Kevin McCarthy.

LOVING ANNABELLE explores the complexity and controversy of love and struggle between two women who have every reason to deny their feelings. Blind to the world around them, the two journey into a love affair destined to change their lives forever.

This handsome collector's edition DVD is jam-packed with extras including alternate endings and deleted scenes.

State by state guide
Mautner Projects' "Hope and Healing" Helps Cancer Survivors

Hope and Healing is an initiative of the Mautner Project to provide innovative programs that support the physical, psychological and social recovery of lesbians with cancer, their partners and caregivers. The mission of Hope and Healing is to provide survivorship education and support in nurturing, safe environments for the lesbian community. It is composed of two elements: Monthly Community Health Workshops and an Annual Hope and Healing Retreat.

A state by state technical assistance manual outlines resources for lesbiab, bisexual, and transgender cancer survivors.

Community Health Workshops

Community Health Workshops are community education programs designed specifically for lesbians with cancer, their partners and caregivers, as well as volunteers of the organization who work directly with the clients. They are provided monthly, or on a regularly scheduled basis, on a variety of survivorship education topics chosen or tailored specifically for lesbians/WPW.

Annual Retreat

The Mautner Project's first annual retreat for cancer survivors was created in 2001. Since that time, each retreat has largely followed a basic format with allowances for new topics and new activities each year. About three days are devoted to refreshing energy, recharging optimism, growing spiritually, experimenting with complementary and alternative medicine (CAM), to fun, laughter, and the enjoyment of supportive company—all within a safe and nurturing space.

Contact: Mautner Project The National Lesbian Health Organization, 1707 L Street NW, Suite 230 Washington, DC 20036; 202 332 5536, Toll free 1-866-628-8637; mautner@mautnerproject.org.

Shawn Decker and His Pet Virus

"I was destined for a life of medical drama from day one," begins this comic memoir with a mission.

"I was born in the month of July, and my horoscope sign is a disease (Cancer). The symbol for Cancer? A crab (the sexually transmitted critter). Not only that, my parents named me Shawn Timothy Decker, which makes my initials S.T.D.

Shawn Decker isn't quite the All-American boy. Sure, he gets caught shoplifting copies of Penthouse; is crazy about pro wrestling, especially "The Nature Boy" Ric Flair; and never has a problem getting dates. But he's also a hemophiliac who discovers, at age eleven, that he has contracted HIV from tainted blood products.

Instead of becoming self-pitying and dying (as first predicted), Shawn develops a twisted sense of humor, meets Depeche Mode through the Make-A-Wish Foundation, and writes on blogs and in Poz magazine about what it's like being hetero and HIV-positive in rural Virginia. He also turns to gay men for advice on dating women and, almost twenty years after getting HIV, marries Gwenn Barringer, who is HIV-negative and a former competitor for the title of Miss Virginia. Together Shawn and Gwenn travel the country, speaking to high school and college kids about how to live and love with HIV (and how to avoid getting it).

Local Authors: Staying Focused in the Age of Distraction

"Staying Focused in the Age of Distraction: How Mindfulness, Prayer and Meditation Can Help You Pay Attention to What Really Matters" is written by local professionals Elizabeth H. Hoffman, Ph.D. and her son Christopher D. Hoffman, LCSW and is available in local bookstores and at Amazon.com.

Q&A on" Staying Focused"

1. What is the "age of distraction?"

We are living in it! Internet, email, cell phones combine with the bombardment of advertising and media productions. If the corporate world spends millions of dollars to capture your attention, why should you just give it away?

2. Why is it so important to learn to focus your attention?

Your attention is a precious commodity, use it wisely. What you focus on becomes your life. What will you be doing a year from now? For clues, look around you today. Where do you devote your time and energy? You can increase and sustain your happiness and well-being. But first you have to learn how to manage your attention.

3. How can you re-direct your focus for a richer, more meaningful life?

Through mindfulness and other focusing strategies, you can learn to concentrate on what matters to you and tune out what doesn't.

4. How can you discover what is meaningful in your life?

Childhood strengths and interests contain the blueprint. We guide the reader to develop this blueprint, in combination with the reader's values, beliefs and ethics, so the reader has a clearer picture of what is meaningful and worthwhile in his/her life.

5. How are prayer, meditation and mindfulness good for your health?

We review the research that shows what aspects of physical and emotional health are positively influenced by spiritual practices such as prayer, mindfulness and meditation.

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Carlisle vs. Hazleton

Part 1: Queering the Immigration Debate

By Rita J. Verga, Esq.

The fight for glbt rights and the fight for immigrant rights may appear to many to be quite different. But they are closer than you might imagine.

On November 6 last year, a federal judge extended the restraining order blocking Hazleton's City Council from enforcing its "Illegal Immigration Relief Act" for another 120 days. The law, along with another, would fine landlords found to be renting space to undocumented workers, close down businesses that hire them, and allow legal employees to sue those businesses for employment lost during such a shutdown.

If implemented, the laws would encourage Hazleton property owners to discriminate against anyone they suspected of being foreign. Either that or, risk the fines and penalties associated with a failure to comply with the laws, opponents argue. Omar Jadwat of the ACLU Immigrants' Rights Project observed: "We expect the government to make laws that will prevent discrimination, not require it."

Jadwat's expectation that the ne laws will foster rather than prevent discrimination becomes clear when Hazleton's anti-immigrant laws are juxtaposed against the glbt-protective law recently passed in Carlisle. That law prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in housing, employment, and public accommodation (e.g., hotels, motels, restaurants, and movie theaters). It is nearly a mirror image of the Hazleton laws. The inversion suggests the questions: Should "the glbt community" be doing more to help immigrants fight against discrimination? If so, why and how?

The answer is clear, if not intuitive. Queer advocates should be organizing to put immigrant rights at the center of the glbt movement and queer rights at the center of the immigrant rights movement. The reason is simple: anti-queer and anti-immigrant discrimination are essentially connected. That connection is rooted in distinct but parallel experiences of cultural, political, and economic marginalization, and in the history of discrimination against glbt immigrants.

From 1953 until 1990, gays and lesbians were barred from immigrating to the U.S. Initially, this ban was part of the exclusion of people with "psychopathic personalities" (i.e., mental illness). But in 1965, Congress added "sexual deviation" to the list of traits which made immigrants excludable, and in 1967, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the ban.

In 1990, Congress repealed the exclusion of gay and lesbian immigrants. Scholars attribute this change to political activism and social awareness on the part of the glbt community. Shortly thereafter, the Board of Immigration Appeals and Attorney General Janet Reno recognized sexual orientation as grounds for seeking asylum. Reno officially announced as a precedent the first-ever case of a gay man from Cuba who was granted asylum on the basis of his sexual orientation. Since then, there have been hundreds of asylum claims based on sexual orientation, gender identity or HIV status.

While protections for glbt immigrants under the asylum law have advanced well-beyond the outright exclusion of gays and lesbians from immigration to the U.S., all immigrants continue to suffer under discriminatory federal, state, and local laws. Examples include laws that prohibit even lawful resident aliens from certain types of employment, laws that disqualify lawful immigrants from receiving state financial aid, Medicare, and other public benefits, and a new wave of laws like Hazleton's "Illegal Immigration Relief Act."

Such discriminatory laws have historically and modernly been motivated by racism, xenophobia, irrational stereotypes, and political scapegoating. This should not be surprising given that all noncitizens, from lawful asylees who immigrated decades ago to recent undocumented immigrants, cannot vote. The problem is compounded by the fact that many immigrants for many reasons, including the threat of deportation, may forego other means of political participation.

This is where the glbt community should step in. Queer people should be asking themselves whether what they are doing is part of a broad movement for social change, or just helping themselves and making their lives more comfortable. Recently, there has been recognition that anti-queer and anti-immigrant discrimination are connected. But there remains a critical need for more strategic alliance building among these and other marginalized groups.

Readers: The next article will provide a specific example of how queer and immigrant advocates have worked in a coalition concerned with access to drivers' licenses.

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A vibrant affirmation of bisexuality

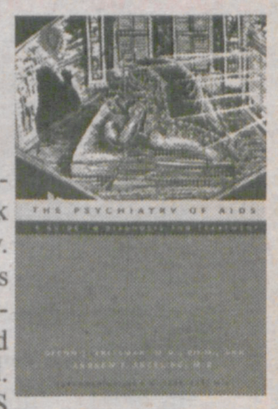
Bi Men: Coming Out Every Which Way

Edited by Ron Jackson Suresha Author of Bears on Bears & Peter A. Chvany, PhD Activist, Bisexual Resource Center

"Bi Men: Coming Out Every Which Way" is a moving and pioneering celebration of the male bisexual self that addresses biphobia in our society. In today's sexual world, both straight and gay and lesbian communities still often refuse to accept the reality of bisexuality. Bi Men confronts head-on the limiting views that bisexuality is a transitional phase of sexual evolution or a simple refusal to accept being either homosexual or straight.

The book is a pioneering collection of moving personal essays by bisexual men and those who love them explores what it means to be bisexual in today's monosexually oriented society. Bisexual and bi-curious men will find comfort and camaraderie in these stories about coming out, its impact on family and marriage, evolving perspectives on bisexuals within the lgbt community. Each contributor to this collection affirms the innate fluidity of self, sexuality, family, and community, and proclaims that sexuality is truly diverse in its predispositions and creativity. www.haworthpress.com

The Psychiatry of AIDS



Glenn J. Treisman, M.D., Ph.D. and Andrew F. Angelino, M.D.
foreword by John G. Bartlett, M.D.

"This is a gem of a book providing meaningful insights into the working of clinicians in a difficult area of general hospital psychiatry as well as serving as a textbook of AIDS psychiatry," says Gopinath Ranjith, International Review of Psychiatry.

HIV/AIDS has become a psychiatric epidemic. The disease causes or exacerbates such psychiatric disorders as depression, dementia, schizophrenia, and bipolar disease. At the same time, the presence of a psychiatric disorder can lead to increased risk for HIV infection and worsen the prognosis of patients once they are infected.

Dr. Glenn J. Treisman, who has been described as the "father of AIDS psychiatry," describes the relationship between psychiatric disorders and HIV/AIDS and demonstrates the ways in which effective recognition and treatment of mental disorders can increase a patient's ability to obtain better treatment, improve compliance with medical regimens, and reduce incidents of high-risk behavior. It also provides mental health professionals with essential information on how to care for patients with HIV and those at risk for the infection.

Glenn J. Treisman, M.D., Ph.D. , is the director of AIDS Psychiatry Services at the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions and an associate professor of medicine and psychiatry at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. Andrew F. Angelino, M.D. , is an assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.

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Carlisle Fights Discrimination

By Alan Franklin

In Pennsylvania, the State Human Relations Act bans discrimination in employment, housing, and accommodations based on such things as race, ethnicity, sex, age, disability, and religion. This law thus protects many people who might otherwise suffer such discrimination.

Unfortunately, this law does not include protection for people identified as gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT). They are completely vulnerable to discrimination.

In fact, in all of Pennsylvania, except in the jurisdictions that have adopted their own more inclusive forms of human relations legislation, glbt people can be arbitrarily excluded or dismissed from a job, denied the rental or purchase of a home, or denied acceptance in public accommodations.

While pro-glbt legislators are expected in the next legislative session to reintroduce a bill disallowing discrimination, opponents have managed in the past to block such bills.

Not confident that the General Assembly will act, a number of cities and towns, and one county, have adopted their own human relations ordinances protecting all vulnerable classes, including people who are or are thought to be glbt. In addition to patching the glbt hole in state law, these ordinances create local human relations commissions that can act locally and with utmost dispatch to mediate or otherwise try to solve all discrimination disputes.

Jurisdictions that thus far have enacted their own antidiscrimination ordinances protective of all people include Erie County, Allentown, Easton, Harrisburg, Lancaster, New Hope, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Scranton, York, State College (housing only), the boroughs of Swarthmore and Lansdowne, and, most recently, the Borough of West Chester.

With regard to passage in Carlisle of an antidiscrimination law, Carlisle advocates are hopeful. There is strong support for diversity in general. In recent months, the borough saw itself unified in the face of Ku Klux Klan visit and threatened visit from Fred Phelps' Westboro Baptist Church in protest of Gay-Straight Alliances in local high schools. More recently, Carlisle enacted a resolution supporting the Inclusive Cities Partnership of the National League of Cities.

Carlisle's mayor and city council deserve the support of all residents as they proceed to enact antidiscrimination against glbt residents.

Submitted by: Alan D. Franklin, Coordinator, GLBT Justice Initiative, Unitarian Universalists of the Cumberland Valley.

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Through Feb. 28

Wissler-Thomas Exhibits at Appalachian Brewery

Carrie Wissler-Thomas, Art Association of Harrisburg president, is exhibiting her own paintings in a "retrospective" showing at Appalachian Brewery, 50 North Cameron Street, through the end of February.

Colonsay Burn

St. Ninian's Isle

Contact:
236-1432 or carrie@artassocofhbg.com.

On view are oil paintings from her various series of themes, including her most recent Scottish landscapes, her Susquehanna River views, expressionist figures, portraits, fashion figures, and even an early still-life done when she was in college.

President and Executive Director of The Art Association of Harrisburg since 1986, Wissler-Thomas majored in fine art at Hood College, and received her Master's Degree from Temple University. She and her husband moved to Harrisburg in 1972, where she taught private painting lessons, did freelance copywriting, and became heavily involved with the Art Association as a Board Member, instructor, and then as Board President from 1980-1984.

Wissler-Thomas has long been known for her paintings of expressionist figures and portraits, but for the past ten years annual trips to Scotland have inspired a whole new series of landscapes, the undulating hills, flowing burns and shimmering lochs actually reminiscent in style and palette to her figurative work. Her paintings, whatever the subject, are characterized by their bravura brushwork and lush colors. Never doing architectural subjects, Wissler-Thomas prefers the lyrical lines and flowing forms of the human figure, draperies, and the natural landscape.

She has held more than 35 solo exhibitions of her work throughout central Pennsylvania, and has been part of a myriad group shows during her career.

Art Association Offers Winter Classes

The Art Association of Harrisburg is accepting registrations for winter semester classes running January 8 through mid-April. Youth and adult classes will be offered in the main facility at 21 North Front Street and Reservoir Park.

Prospective students and their parents may call 236-1432 for a class brochure or visit www.artassocofhbg.com.

Youth classes include: Ages 5-7 - Art for Kids and Drawing and Painting for Kids; Ages 8-10 - Junior Artists; Ages 10-15 - Mixed Media for Teens. Fantasy Art and Cartooning are available on Saturdays for 10 – Adult; and Clay for Kids ages 8-12.

Adult drawing classes include: Basic Drawing with Maaike Heitkonig Hickok, Figure Drawing with Scott Meier, Life Study workshop with Karl Foster, and Portraiture with Kim Krammes. Wheel and hand-building classes will be offered in the Reservoir Park studios by Jerald Phoenix and Sean Grey, with Erik Harmon instructing the more advanced students in Glazing Techniques. Louis Gatling will teach Clay Sculpture.

Basic Oil Painting is again offered by Jonathan Frazier, with Mary Lundeen teaching Abstraction, Shauna Powers Basic Watercolour, and Linda Benton-McCloskey, Collage. Still-Life Painting will be offered Saturday afternoons by Bill Kocher, and Realism and Impressionism will be taught Sunday afternoons by Dennis Humphreys. Don Phillips will again offer his popular Depicting Wildlife and Domestic Animals on Monday evenings.

New for the winter semester will be a Bead Jewelry Design course on Sat. afternoons with instructor Barbara Gutekunst. Michael Reed will again offer Jewelry Workshop, with silver the medium of choice, on Sat. mornings.

Scholarships are available to students with financial need.

Gross Trust

By Kristen Richards

Douglas Ian Koozer's "Gross Trust," an experimental, interactive and 2-stage art piece at Gallerie 13 in Mechanicsburg, consists of 144 individual canvases, each $100. Underneath each canvas is a white block, which is "your canvas." Purchaser may paint, draw, stick, stab or staple on "your canvas and has until 1/31/07 to do so. During payment, Koozer meets and signs your piece in person and is available for pickup at 2nd Floor Gallery in Mechanicsburg. If unable to pay, Koozer will not sign nor will "your canvas" be available to be marked but canvas can be taken along, "on trust." Payment due 1/20/07. If payment is not received by then, Koozer will mark on "Your Canvas," NO TRUST. Concept: Out of 144 people, who and how many people can he trust? Several blocks are available for purchase but only one piece "on trust" is permissible. The 6' x 12' frame piece of the people's work will collectively indicate creativity, style and personality. No layaways.

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One Night Stand at Red Door - Art Association of Harrisburg hosted "One Night Stand Exhibition" at The Red Door. Artists, (L to R) **Jeff Wiles, Jeannine Turgeon, Philip Moore, Todd Geiger, Brian Molloy, Jessica Julianna,** showcased work to a lively crowd. www.artassocofhbg.com

ARTS at 510 Hosts ARTtalk Series

Susan Schreckengaust, owner and director of ARTS at 510, 510 North Third Street, Harrisburg, announces an Art Talk series. ARTtalk is held 6:00-8:00 p.m. with talks beginning promptly at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments are served.

ARTtalk is open to the public and reservations are not required but suggested. Lectures include Sculpture on March 22, 2007 and Alice Neel on April 26, 2007.

ARTS at 510 gallery hours: Tues. – Fri. 11-6; Sat. 10-3 and by appointment. Call: 717.724.0364.

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Featured artist 2nd Floor: ***Mary-Louise Biasotti Hooper.***

February 17th - ***"Gallery Saturday"***
Open wine and cheese reception. 6pm to 9pm.
Featured artist 1st Floor: ***Rebekah Jenkins.***
Featured artist 2nd Floor: ***Carolyn Gibboney.***

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January 5th - ***"1st Friday"***
Open wine and cheese artist reception. 6pm to 9pm.
Featured artists: ***Matthew Peifer and Dusty Genard***

February 2nd - ***"1st Friday"***
Open wine and cheese artist reception. 6pm to 9pm.
Featured artist group show: *Theme: "Art of the Heart".*
Everyone is asked to wear red, pink or black for the reception. All art will have a love based theme.

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10 Hot Jobs for 2007

By Candace Corner

As technology changes, we're living longer, retiring later and pursuing higher education at higher rates than previous generations. Employment markets are changing right alongside us.

Bureau of Labor Statistics say technology is one of several factors determining the next great gig out there. Demographic shifts, legislative changes, business trends and consumer behavior also factor into the next big thing.

Here are some of today's cutting edge jobs:

1. Animal Assisted Therapist

What they do: Study and identify behavioral patterns in animals and apply techniques to improve mental, social and physical issues within humans through animal/human companionship.

What you need: A bachelor's of science degree in psychology, social work, physical therapy, nursing or education. Additional training and certification in Animal Assisted Therapy (AAT) is a big plus. AAT program concentrations can include elderly care, social work, education and other specialties.

2. Animal Defense Lawyer

Handle cases dealing with animals in cases ranging from custody in divorce cases to veterinary malpractice. While laws suggest that animals are regarded as "property," owners who are battling for the custody often regard their pets at a higher standard.

The educational degrees and requirements for a major in law, a Juris Doctorate, and a concentration and clinical work in animal law.

3. Art Therapist

Treat physical, mental and emotional disabilities through art expression.

A master's degree in art therapy with completed curriculum under the American Art Therapy Association's educational standards. To be a registered art therapist, 1,000 hours of direct client contact must be reached after graduation.

4. Computer Forensic Expert

Use computer investigation and analysis to determine legal evidence. They uncover deleted information and can help the legal system track down people attempting to cover their illegal actions, such as hackers and inside traders.

A wide range of computer hardware and software experience, as well as an associate or bachelor's degree in computer forensics, computer science or another related field.

5. Genetic Counselor

Assist families who have members with birth defects and other genetic disorders, and also aid in educational and administrative roles related to genetic counseling and inherited health issues.

A bachelor's degree concentrating on biology/biosciences, psychology, genetics or nursing and a master's degree in genetic counseling. The American Board of Genetic Counseling and the American Board of Medical Genetics offer certification.

6. Legal Nurse Consultant

Perform an analysis of medical information as related to law. They conduct legal research, interview expert witnesses and assist with legal paperwork and processes.

An RN license. Formal training as a legal nurse consultant (LNC) is not required, but helpful.

7. Nurse Paralegal

Similar to LNCs, they are hired to assist law firms, government agencies and insurance companies with expertise on medical-related cases. Unlike LNCs, nurse paralegals have a stronger focus on the legal relations to medicine.

A bachelor's or advanced degree in nursing or another health-related field and certification.

8. Medical Illustrator

Create images that visually communicate bioscientific and medical discoveries. They also act as consultants, advisers, administrators and educators in biological science communications.

A bachelor's degree with a major in art and a minor in biological sciences or vice versa; a portfolio of artwork demonstrating competence. A majority of medical illustrators have master's degrees in medical illustration.

9. Radiation Therapist

Work with radiation oncologists to administer treatment as prescribed and supervised by the doctor. They also maintain records and check the operations of the radiology equipment.

An associate or bachelor's degree in radiology and certification under the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists. Licensing may also be required.

10. Veterinary Physical Therapist

Focus on animal treatment and rehabilitation methods, including hydrotherapy, swimming, exercise and massage.

Certification training is offered to licensed veterinarians, veterinary technicians and physical therapists. Some certification programs require written exams, and follow-up case reports, independent studies and take-home exams are also available.

Candace Corner is a writer for CareerBuilder.com.

Feel Your Boobies continued

FYB grow as a business. She put together a "boobies couture" line, hired a publicist and revamped her Web site.

The new site, which Hurst said is one of the biggest things she's done in the past year, launched in June 2006.

"I made the original site myself, so it was very homegrown. I wanted to give it a more sophisticated feel," Hurst said.

Hurst has also been building relationships with some creative folks, which led to the creation of the Boobies Couture 2006 line. This upscale series of products will be available for a limited time only, through the end of the year. She hopes to introduce a new limited-edition couture line every year.

Boobies Couture 2006 includes a fitted tee featuring a design by Hurst's brother Andrew Hurst, a belt buckle, baby onesie, small make-up bag, holiday note cards and a camisole and underwear set. Twenty-five percent of the net proceeds from this line will be donated to the Young Survival Coalition.

"These products are cuter than I could do on my own, and they're a different way to get my message across," Hurst said.

The original FYB line is still going strong, though. Hurst said the car magnets are her best seller "by far," followed by the pink baby tees.

That line also includes several shirts, hats, buttons, stickers, note cards and a "boobies bandana." Hurst said she has been "wanting to make this forever" for both people who are "temporarily going through chemo or just keeping themselves healthy at the gym."

Since she began selling her shirts online, Hurst has included a postcard with each purchase to help her customers spread the word. She now includes a how-to card on breast self-exams with every T-shirt purchase.

"It's a facelift on the traditional shower card that you see in college dorms and at doctor's offices. It's something you wouldn't be embarrassed to have sitting out, where other people can learn about how to give themselves a breast exam," Hurst said.

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Food

Where Do You Find Organic Food?

By Ian Forster

"They are ecstatic. They tell me good things daily," Eatwild.com's Jo Robinson tells Central VOICE about her organic food customers. "There is now tremendous interest from restaurants and stores also," she says.

Eatwild.com's web site launched in 2001 with 40 food producers and now boasts 900 producers with several new members added weekly.

PA Association for Sustainable Agriculture

One of the nation's largest, the Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture (PASA) works with farmers who grow our food, consumers, and individuals concerned with the ecological well-being of our environment and natural resources.

PASA is the only statewide, member-based, sustainable farming organization in Pennsylvania and the Northeast. Their "Buy Fresh Buy Local" campaign provides consumers with locally grown, fresh and tasty, farm-raised foods. www.buylocapa.org

Local Harvest – 8 New Members Daily

Local Harvest maintains a "living" nationwide directory of small farms, farmers markets, and other local food sources. Their search engine helps people find products from family farms, local sources of sustainably grown food, and encourages them to establish direct contact with small farms in their local area. The online store helps small farms develop markets for some of their products beyond their local area. They have 9,000 members, and are growing by about eight new members daily. www.localharvest.org

New Farm

The Rodale Institute® is a global leader in regenerative agriculture, innovative agriculture research, and outreach and training through The New Farm® programs.

The Institute works with people worldwide to achieve a regenerative food system. Their program is based on the philosophy "Healthy Soil = Healthy Food = Healthy People ®."

www.newfarm.org

Eat Wild

Eatwild.com is a source for safe, healthy, natural and nutritious grass-fed beef, lamb, goats, bison, poultry, pork and dairy products. The site links consumers with reliable suppliers of all-natural, delicious, grass-fed products; provides comprehensive information about the benefits of raising animals on pasture; and provides a marketplace for farmers who raise their livestock on pasture from birth to market. www.eatwild.com

Food Routes

It's not exactly Route 66. The Food Routes web site is a project of the Food Routes Network (FRN). FRN provides communications tools, technical support, networking and information resources to organizations nationwide that are working to rebuild local, community-based food systems.

"We want to reintroduce Americans to their food," says a company representative.

The reintroduction includes the seeds our food grows from, the farmers who produce it, and the

Organic Food

www.pasafarming.org
www.buylocalpa.org
www.localharvest.org
www.newfarm.org
www.eatwild.com
www.foodroutes.org

Chef's Choice Foodservice Expands

Chef's Choice Foodservice Equipment will expand with the purchase of 10-26 N. Cameron St. Harrisburg. Business owners Keith and Ileana Newkam will move Chef's Choice from 29 S. 10th St. The business has nine full-time employees. The move will enable the Newkams to add three more full-time jobs within three years. CREDC is providing a $194,000 loan to support the expansion in conjunction with Pennsylvania State Bank financing and other equity contributions. The total project cost is $485,000.

حلال سوق المدينة حلال
El-Madina Restaurant & Market

A tasty addition to the region's growing ethnic food market, Steelton's Al-Madina Restaurant & Market, 441 S. Front St., offers food like no other 7 days weekly, 7a-10p. Like Italian food varies regionally, so do Middle Eastern dishes. You can also browse well-stocked market shelves for imported goodies, frozen selections, including Midamar and Al-sala products. The establishment also serves breakfast, Mediterranean, and Italian dishes and offers fresh HalalMeats. 717-939-6777;mahmoud_fouda_22@hotmail.com.

European Restaurant & Retail Store Opens

Nusret Sahovic has leased and opened a European Restaurant which includes a retail store at Windsor Park Shopping Center, Lower Allen Township, Mechanicsburg, Pa. Judy Pierce of High Associates, Ltd., of Harrisburg handled the lease transaction.

Authentic "El Sol" Mexican Restaurant Opens

Lisa and Juan Garcia have signed a long term lease at 18 S. Third Street (Historic Keystone Building), Harrisburg, Pa., for an authentic Mexican restaurant, "El Sol." Judy Pierce of High Associates, Ltd., of Harrisburg represented the Garcias, and Ken Walker of Howard Hanna Detweiler of Camp Hill represented the landlord. Grand opening is anticipated the first of next year.

Wilsbach Distributors Adds Two Organic Beers

Wilsbach Distributors, Inc., the local Anheuser-Busch wholesaler for central Pennsylvania, now distributes two "organic" beers - Stone Mill and Wild Hop. Both brands are USDA Certified Organic and are available at local beer distributors. Starting in 2007, Wilsbach is also distributing "Redbridge" which is gluten-free and made available at local beer distributors. Redbridge is made with Sorghum, which means no wheat or barley is used in the mix.

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Tioga County - Cabin shell on 1.72 acres near Tioga State Forest. Cedar siding, covered porch, electric to land, perc approved, $49,900. Owner financing. 814-435-2570

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Starbridge Choices	Core # 1 Product	www.starhrg.com
Starbridge Fundamemtal Care	High Option	www.starhrg.com
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